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CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT

State average tops 10K cases per day

Hospitalizations near all-time high; positivity rate 23.6%

By Alex Putterman
Hartford Courant

Connecticut has averaged more than 10,000 COVID-19 cases a day over the past week, state numbers show, by far the most of any time during the pandemic.

Nearly a quarter of the COVID-

19 tests in the state came back positive over the weekend, continuing a coronavirus surge that shows no obvious signs of slowing.

COVID-19 hospitalizations statewide are fast approaching an all-time high, and some hospitals are already treating more coronavirus patients than they have at any previous point. Hartford HealthCare officials said Monday morning that their health system had 501 COVID-19 patients, compared to a high of 425 during Connecticut's initial wave in spring 2020.

However, officials said Monday that fewer patients are requiring intensive care as compared to previous waves, likely due to protection from vaccines and the lesser severity of the omicron variant.

"At that time, when we had 425 [COVID-19] patients, about 128 patients were in the ICU," Dr. Ajay Kumar, Hartford HealthCare's chief clinical officer, said Monday. "Today we have almost 50% or so, a little less than that, in the ICU."

As of Monday, Connecticut

ranked 10th nationally in new COVID-19 tests per capita and eighth in COVID-19 hospitalizations per capita, according to data aggregated by the New York Times.

Cases, positivity rate

Connecticut on Monday reported 31,405 new COVID-19 cases out of 132,606 tests since Friday, for a daily positivity rate of 23.7%. The state's seven-day positivity rate now stands at 23.6%, the

highest of any time since widespread testing began more than 18 months ago.

Connecticut has now averaged 10,179 daily COVID-19 cases over the past week, up from 341 in early November and far more than at any other time of the pandemic. Unvaccinated residents have been about three times as likely to test positive in recent weeks as vaccinated residents, according to state numbers.

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MARK MIRKO/HARTFORD COURANT

Hazy shade of winter

Under a full head of steam, a pedestrian walks through downtown Hartford on Monday. With an Arctic front expected to bring frigid temperatures to the state, Gov. Ned Lamont activated the state's severe cold weather protocol. **Story, Connecticut, Page 1.**

Child care providers: Industry on 'brink'

State leaders say relief could depend largely on Build Back Better bill

By Seamus McAvoy
Hartford Courant

Child care providers, beset by high staff turnover and what they describe as a flawed funding model exacerbated by COVID-19, are sounding the alarm on an industry they say is on the brink.

Industry wages have remained stagnant for years, according to providers and advocates, and many staff are leaving for better-paying opportunities elsewhere. Disruptions and safety concerns brought on by the fast-spreading omicron variant have piled onto workers, now nearly two years into the pandemic.

These issues come at a crucial time in the state's recovery, with reliable, quality child care at the core of an economy now slowly lurching back to life.

Without substantial investment, Georgia Goldburn, director of the Hope Child Development Center in New Haven, fears Connecticut's child care industry is approaching collapse. "This is where we are, and I am not being hyperbolic," Goldburn said.

Turn to Child care, Page 3



U.S. diplomat Wendy Sherman and Russia's Sergei Ryabkov attend talks Monday in Geneva. **DENIS BALIBOUSE/POOL VIA AP**

US, Russia remain far apart in talks

Both sides dig in on Ukraine, other issues at Geneva meeting

By Matthew Lee and Konstantin Manenkov
Associated Press

GENEVA — The United States and Russia locked horns over Ukraine and other security issues Monday with no sign of progress from either side at highly anticipated strategic talks.

Low expectations from both Washington and Moscow

about the high-stakes session in Geneva appeared to have been met as senior diplomats from the countries emerged without offering any hint of success.

Neither side characterized the meeting as a complete failure, but neither did they offer any prospect of easing the increasingly worrisome standoff over Russia's military buildup on its border with Ukraine that the West sees as a fundamental threat to European security. Nor was there any indication of movement on other, perhaps less-explosive matters that have vexed the U.S.-Russia relation-

ship.

Moscow insists on guarantees to halt NATO's eastward expansion and even roll back the military alliance's deployments in Eastern Europe, while Washington rejects the demands as a nonstarter.

With both sides dug in on their positions and Ukraine's future hanging in the balance, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov said "no progress" was made on the central demand on NATO expansion, although he insisted:

Turn to Geneva, Page 3

9 seek Secretary of State position

Seat open for first time in 12 years after Merrill says she's not running

By Christopher Keating
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — With an open seat for the first time in 12 years, at least nine candidates are running to become Connecticut's next Secretary of the State.

When three-term incumbent Denise Merrill announced that she was not seeking reelection, the scramble began on both sides of the political aisle because openings for statewide constitutional offices are relatively rare. A total of seven Democrats and two Republicans are interested in running for the job.

The candidates are already raising money, with state Sen. Matt Lesser of Middletown collecting about \$41,000 as of Jan. 1 and state Rep. Hilda Santiago, a Meriden Democrat, with more than \$40,000. They are followed by Maritza Bond, New Haven's health director, who has raised more than \$35,000. State Rep. Josh Elliott, one of the longtime leaders of the House Democrats' liberal caucus, raised \$21,000 during the last quarter.

"I'm still testing the waters," Lesser said Monday in an interview. "I'm exploring. I have a job that I love, but this is a really important position and the office itself is really important. Ultimately, it's going to be what the state party and what the different Democratic town committees



Merrill

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State legislators call for remote learning option as staff shortages disrupt classes

Staff shortages due to COVID-19 have continued to paralyze schools across Connecticut, forcing some districts to cancel classes and sparking calls for a remote learning option from legislators and advocates. **Connecticut, Page 1**

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FROM PAGE ONE

Surging COVID-19 cases shut down trial

Court system struggles to return to normal as backlogs continue

By Edmund H. Mahony
Hartford Courant

The only jury trial underway in Hartford's criminal courthouse shut down Monday — after repeated, COVID-related false starts — because the judge couldn't keep enough jurors seated to hear the evidence.

The latest COVID surge has upset plans to reopen both the state and federal court systems, both still struggling with backlogs from last year's shutdowns.

Connecticut's chief federal judge disclosed last week that all trials scheduled before February are again delayed, although judges may begin scheduling new trials after Feb. 1. The state court administration said the Judicial Branch is summoning fewer jurors because of the latest coronavirus surge, but is not suspending all trials.

"As for the future impact on the branch's operations, this is the type of challenge we have been dealing with throughout the pandemic and no doubt will continue to deal with for the foreseeable future," a spokeswoman for the state courts said Monday. "While we have significantly scaled back on the summoning of jurors in the face of the recent surge, we have not suspended them entirely. The trial judges have extensive discretion to excuse jurors, but we have been gratified by those jurors who have appeared in response to a jury summons and expressed a willingness to discharge the essential public duty of serving on a jury."

The defendant in the trial that came to an abrupt halt in Superior Court in Hartford Monday

is Paul Griffin, 35, who has been jailed, unable to post bail, since his arrest 17 months ago for a domestic assault. He is accused of burglary with bodily injury, assault with a weapon, assault with physical injury and interfering with an emergency call. His trial was scheduled after he moved in court to have the charges dismissed, claiming his right to a speedy trial was being violated.

Griffin's trial was to have begun in December, but jury selection was upset when a person described as "one of the trial participants" disclosed he had been exposed to COVID and as many as four jurors were allowed to be excused after expressing concern about infection.

Jury selection resumed after the holiday break. Nine jurors were impaneled in an effort to have sufficient alternates to deal with possible infections.

One of the jurors was excused due to a COVID infection on Jan. 6, the same day the jury was sworn in and the presentation of evidence began.

The court was closed Jan. 7 because of snow.

The court spokeswoman said "two people associated with the matter tested positive for COVID" on Monday, stopping the trial.

"In response, the Court held a Teams hearing with the defendant, his counsel and the state to notify all parties of the development," the spokeswoman said. "The Court is giving defense counsel time to confer with his client before deciding next steps; at this point the Court has not declared a mistrial."

Matthew Costello, Griffin's lawyer, said he anticipates asking Superior Court Judge Frank M. D'Addabbo, Jr. for a mistrial, which would require rescheduling of the trial and jury selection.

Secretary

from Page 1

are looking for. We need to put together a ticket, and there are a lot of things under consideration."

Like other candidates, Santiago is working to raise enough money to qualify for public funding in the statewide race. So far, 406 contributors have given money to her campaign.

Santiago, assistant deputy Speaker Pro Tempore in the state House of Representatives, is the highest-ranking Latina in the state. Her campaign platform calls for protecting voting rights and making voting easier and more convenient.

Elliott says the multiple candidates from the legislature will gauge their support among about 2,000 statewide Democratic delegates by May and then potentially pivot to decide whether to run again for their legislative seats.

"We should be making voting easier, and people want voting to be easier," Elliott said.

As a non-legislator with a career in public health, Bond is promoting her background for the job as the state's chief elections official. The past three secretaries of the state over the past 27 years — Democrats Miles Rapoport, Susan Bysiewicz, and Merrill — were all well-known, veteran leaders in the state House of Representatives who knew delegates to the Democratic state party convention and were well-versed in the state legislation concerning voting.

Bond says she considers her outsider status as an advantage.

"I am not a career politician, and I think that is my greatest strength," Bond said. "I am a problem-solver, a good listener, and a hard worker, and given the opportunity, I will show the residents of this state what a people-first approach to government can look like."

Bond added, "From the beginning, this exploratory campaign has been about building a grass-

Those who have held the Secretary of the State position include Gov. Ella Grasso, longtime U.S. Rep. Barbara B. Kennelly of Hartford, and Susan Bysiewicz, the current lieutenant governor.

roots coalition of people ready to challenge the status quo and buck traditional thinking. During my time working in public health, I've seen government work for people and I have seen it fail. And when I speak with residents of this state about the stagnation surrounding early voting, no-excuse absentee ballots, and more, I see an opportunity to bring to this office what I have brought to New Haven and Bridgeport as the director of public health — an approach to government that prioritizes listening to the people it serves and giving a voice to those too often ignored."

Through the years, the job has been a launching pad for much bigger political careers. Those who have held the Secretary of the State position include Gov. Ella Grasso, longtime U.S. Rep. Barbara B. Kennelly of Hartford, and Bysiewicz, the current lieutenant governor. The position is a four-year term that pays \$110,000 annually.

On the Republican side, former candidate Dominic A. Rapini and political operative Brock L. Weber have created candidate committees that show they are beyond the exploratory stage. Rapini lost in a Republican primary for the U.S. Senate to Matthew Corey, a tavern owner and high-rise window washer who won by a 3-to-1 margin. The Republican convention will be at Foxwoods Resort Casino in early May, and a potential primary would be in August.

State Republican chairman Ben

Proto said the office has become more high profile with issues including voting and absentee ballots that have become prominent during the continuing coronavirus pandemic.

"Election integrity, election results, how we vote, where we vote, and when we vote are all going to be a big topic of conversation, and so I think the secretary of the state's race will take on more meaning that it has in the past," Proto said. "That race is going to be tremendously important, very visible, and one that is going to garner a lot of attention" during the conventions, primaries and general election.

On the ballot, the secretary of the state is listed after the state legislative races for House and Senate.

Among the large contingent considering the race are state Rep. Stephanie Thomas of Norwalk, Darryl Brackeen of the New Haven board of alders, and Westport resident Rob Simmelkjaer, who serves as chairman of the Connecticut Lottery Corp. All are Democrats.

Two of the biggest issues facing the office include early voting and no-excuse absentee ballot voting that have generated extensive debate at the state Capitol.

Connecticut voters will head to the polls this November on a state constitutional amendment to allow early, in-person voting that would allow the state to join more than 40 other states that already have similar provisions. Proponents pushing for the bipartisan bill said that Connecticut is behind the times when compared to most other states and needs to make better provisions for voters headed to the polls.

Separately, the state legislature is expected to vote again on a constitutional amendment on no-excuse absentee ballots in order to place the amendment on the ballot for the general public in November 2024.

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5 1 0 0 WB: 3

CASH 5

6 7 14 15 17

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3 10 28 38 46 LB: 16

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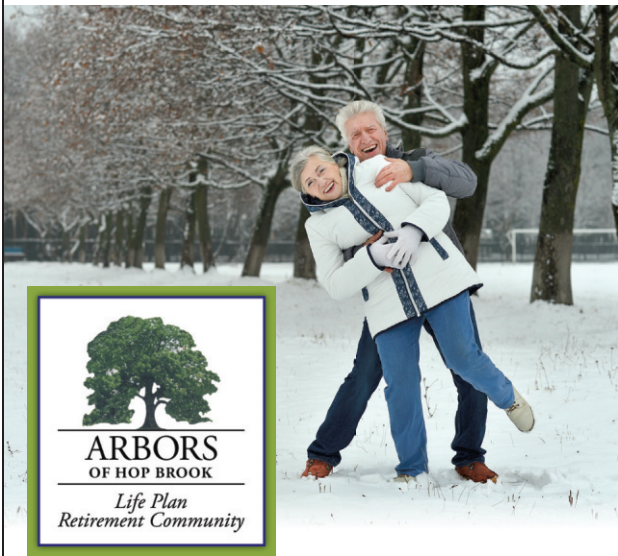
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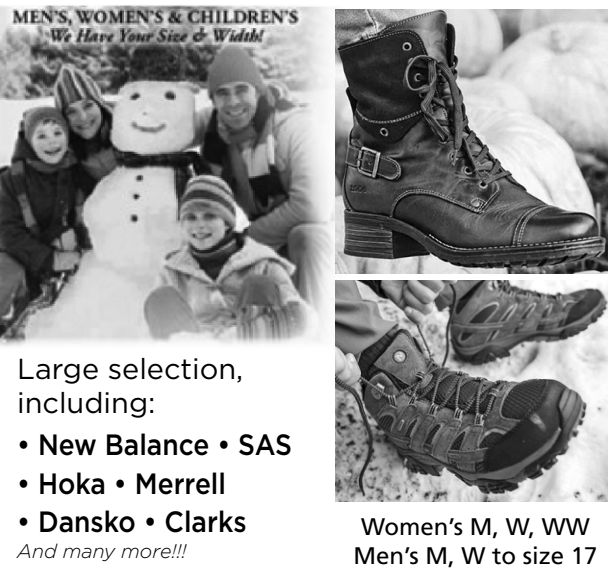
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FROM PAGE ONE



Members of the Community Emergency Response Team of the Southington Health Dept. and town officials distribute COVID-19 test kits and N95 masks Monday to Southington residents at the pavilion at the Southington Drive-In. **DAVE ZAJAC/RECORD-JOURNAL**

Cases

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All eight Connecticut counties — along with nearly the entire rest of the country — are recording “high” levels of COVID-19 transmission as defined by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. With this level of transmission, the CDC advises people to wear a mask in public indoor settings.

Hospitalizations

As of Monday, Connecticut had 1,889 patients hospitalized with COVID-19, up 79 from Wednesday. Hospital officials say some of those patients were admitted for non-coronavirus reasons before testing positive upon arrival but that a majority have significant COVID-19 symptoms. Connecticut is now just 83 hospitalized patients shy of its record of 1,972, set on April 22, 2020.

According to the state, 68.1% of people hospitalized with COVID-19 are unvaccinated. Hospital officials say the rate is significantly higher when considering only patients with severe symptoms.

Deaths

Connecticut reports COVID-19 deaths on Thursdays. Last week, the state recorded 121 deaths, bringing its total during the pandemic to 9,281.

As COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations have surged in Connecticut over recent weeks, deaths have risen but still remain far below the levels recorded last winter. Unvaccinated people in Connecticut have been about 17 times as likely to die from COVID-19 in recent weeks as those who are vaccinated, according to state numbers.

The United States has now recorded 837,773 COVID-19 deaths, accord-

ing to the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University.

Vaccinations

As of Monday, 90.2% of all Connecticut residents and 95% of those 12 and older had received at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose, while 75.3% of all residents and 84% of those 12 and older were fully vaccinated, according to the CDC.

Additionally, about

46.2% of fully vaccinated Connecticut residents 18 or older have received a booster dose.

The CDC warns that booster shots are sometimes misclassified as first doses, likely inflating the reported number of first-dose coverage and understating the true number of people who have received boosters.

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Child care

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For those within the industry, these problems aren’t new. The basic dilemma, providers and state leaders agree, concerns the funding model.

“We, right now, have a funding model and market that compromises fiscal solvency and sustainability of quality child care,” David Morgan, president and CEO of Team, Inc. in Derby, said at a press conference on Monday.

Put more simply: “The market is broken,” Beth Bye, commissioner of the state’s Office of Early Childhood, told the Courant last week.

“Parents can’t afford to pay what it costs for child care, and child care providers aren’t paid what they deserve,” Bye said.

Larger child care centers have it marginally better, thanks to economies of scale. But wages make up 80% of operating costs even at the modestly-sized Hope Child Development, which serves more than 50 children.

The difference in hourly pay between child care teacher salaries and minimum wage has shrunk from \$7 to just \$3 since 2015, according to Merrill Gay, executive director of the Connecticut Early Childhood Alliance.

Like teachers at K-12 schools, child care workers have been on the front lines of the pandemic as long as centers have been open. Children under 5 five can’t be vaccinated and toddlers aren’t advised to wear masks, adding to COVID-19

worries.

“There are just so many people who are like, ‘I can’t do this much longer, I’m burnt out,’” Gay told the Courant.

If Goldburn were to raise wages, she said, that cost would be passed on to the parents. But many are already stretching to make weekly payments, she said.

Goldburn and other providers in the industry — characterized by high turnover rate even in the decades preceding the pandemic — are watching staff leave for better-paying jobs elsewhere.

Meanwhile, parents face a Catch-22: Many are unable to get to work because they’re unable to access child care; if they do find child care, many are unable to afford it because they haven’t been working.

“This broken financial mechanism is colliding with the Great Resignation, a stalled Build Back Better bill, and no appreciable way for us as an industry to respond,” Goldburn said.

Family child care providers are under even more duress. These providers — mostly women, and often women of color — have razor-thin staffs, if any at all.

Kamara Moodie has just three substitutes on staff for her 24-hour program, Lil Sunshine in Bridgeport, which caters to parents who work long or untraditional hours.

“This is my calling, this is my purpose,” said Moodie, an educator for 15 years. But the pandemic has been grueling.

In addition to her job providing care, she’s taken



Gov. Ned Lamont announced the arrival of 426,000 home COVID-19 tests at the state commodities warehouse in New Britain on Friday. On Monday, he reiterated his support for the child care elements of the Build Back Better bill. **CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT**

up other roles to help the children whose families she’s become embedded with — social worker, teacher, health care worker — all while worrying about her own health, due to her preexisting conditions.

“I just don’t know what the day may bring,” Moodie said.

In Connecticut, leaders moved quickly to get the \$120 million in federal American Rescue Plan funding into the hands of child care providers.

According to Gay, as many as 30 other states haven’t distributed any of their federal dollars earmarked for child care yet. “I still don’t understand how there’s still a child care industry in [those] 30 states,” he said.

By May 2021, about 20%

of the state’s child care centers closed permanently. Preschool capacity dropped by more than 10,000 spots, and the state was projected to lose as many as 40,000 spots total.

Those extremes were avoided, Bye said, and the “vast majority” of the centers which closed temporarily are now back open.

Connecticut has lost only about 1% of its child care supply in all during the pandemic, compared to other states which have most more than 10%, according to Bye.

But according to Bye’s office, the state already had a shortage of 50,000 infant toddler slots before the pandemic began. And some providers fear many centers won’t last much longer.

Goldburn is calling for an “infusion of cash” from the state to stem the tide, in a sum that approaches the \$120 million doled out by the federal government.

She pointed to the \$3 billion the state has set aside in its Budget Reserve Fund, according to Kevin Lembo, former state comptroller.

When asked during a Monday press conference if more state money could be on the way, Lamont praised the state’s preexisting investment in the industry and reiterated his support for the child care elements of the Build Back Better bill.

“Many states don’t provide any state participation, they just rely upon erratic money that comes from the [federal government] when they’re in the mood,” Lamont said. “That’s

not Connecticut.

“When it comes to Build Back Better, the child care piece is the most important, what it means for our kids and what it means for our economy.”

Morgan also pointed to the need for federal funding, saying that the amount of investment needed is “beyond the capacity” of the state’s purse strings to address.

Support for federal child care funding through Build Back Better is shared by U.S. Sens. Chris Murphy and Richard Blumenthal, who visited the Hartford YMCA Monday to speak in favor of the bill.

Connecticut would receive \$168 million for child care in the first year if Build Back Better were to pass, according to Bye, who described it as a “critical component” for maintaining the state’s supply of care.

But the bill hangs in congressional limbo. Democratic leaders are still desperate to reach the necessary 50 votes after negotiations broke down in December.

Until that money comes, providers say, the future of child care looks bleak.

“Survival is going to be contingent upon whether we can attract people into the industry,” Goldburn said. “And we cannot attract people into the industry if all we’re offering is \$13 an hour, in this environment, with no benefits.”

“We are on the brink,” she said.

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Geneva

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“We have no intention to invade Ukraine.”

U.S. officials openly questioned that comment.

Ryabkov spoke following talks with his U.S. counterpart, Wendy Sherman — part of a flurry of diplomatic activity in Europe this week aimed at defusing the tensions.

Sherman called the talks a “frank and forthright discussion,” but would not, or could not, point to any progress.

“It was not what you would call a negotiation,” she told reporters. “We’re not to a point where we’re ready to set down texts and begin to go back and forth.”

“We were firm, however,

on pushing back on security proposals that are simply nonstarters for the United States,” Sherman said, adding “we will not allow anyone” to shut NATO’s “open-door policy” that extends to countries seeking to join the alliance.

She said Washington “will not forgo bilateral cooperation with sovereign states that wish to work with the United States. And, we will not make decisions about Ukraine without Ukraine, about Europe without Europe or about NATO without NATO.”

Russian President Vladimir Putin has described NATO expansion to Ukraine and other former Soviet states as a “red line” for Moscow, demanding binding guarantees from the

West that they wouldn’t become members of the alliance.

Moscow has sought to wrest a string of concessions from the U.S. and its Western allies, and has massed an estimated 100,000 troops near Ukraine in steps that have raised concerns about a possible military intervention there.

“The situation now is so dangerous, and so — I would say — precarious that we cannot afford any further delays in resolution of this very fundamental question,” Ryabkov said at a separate news conference at the Russian mission. “As President Putin said, on many occasions, ‘we cannot backpedal. We cannot go backwards. There is no further space for us to do so.’”

Ryabkov rattled off Russian concerns and demands issued last month on subjects like NATO expansion and wanting Western commitments not to deploy offensive weapons near Russian borders.

“The American side has treated the Russian proposals seriously and deeply studied them,” he said, adding that he characterized Moscow’s demand for legally binding guarantees that NATO would not move eastward as “an absolute imperative for us.”

Ryabkov emphasized that it would be hard to work on other issues if the U.S. stonewalled on Russia’s key demands.

“If now NATO proceeds towards deployment of capabilities that are being

developed very rapidly in the U.S., and will possibly be introduced somewhere in Europe, it would require a military response on the Russian part, that is a decision to counter this threat through means at our discretion,” said Ryabkov, speaking in English. “That will inevitably, unavoidably damage security of the U.S. and its European allies.”

He did not elaborate.

After Ryabkov stated that Russia had no intention to invade Ukraine, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, was publicly skeptical.

“I wish to believe him, I wish that it is true that they have no plans, but everything we’ve seen so far indicate that they are making

motions in that direction,” she told reporters at U.N. headquarters in New York.

Echoing comments from U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Sherman said progress could only happen if Russia “stays at the table and takes concrete steps to de-escalate tensions.”

Monday’s meeting was part of “Strategic Security Dialogue” talks on arms control and other broad issues launched by Putin and U.S. President Joe Biden at a June summit in the Swiss city. Talks between Russia and NATO are planned Wednesday in Brussels followed by a meeting in Vienna of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on Thursday.

Man gets transplant heart from pig

‘Watershed event,’ but prognosis still far from certain

By Roni Caryn Rabin
The New York Times

A 57-year-old man with life-threatening heart disease has received a heart from a genetically modified pig, a groundbreaking procedure that offers hope to hundreds of thousands of patients with failing organs.

It is the first successful transplant of a pig’s heart into a human being. The eight-hour operation took place Friday in Baltimore, and the patient, David Bennett Sr. of Maryland, was doing well Monday, according to surgeons at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

“It creates the pulse; it creates the pressure; it is his heart,” said Dr. Bartley Griffith, director of the cardiac transplant program at the medical center, who performed the operation.

“It’s working, and it looks normal. We are thrilled, but we don’t know what tomorrow will bring us. This has never been done before.”

Last year, some 41,354 Americans received a transplanted organ, more than half of them receiving kidneys, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing, a nonprofit that coordinates the nation’s organ procurement efforts.

But there is an acute shortage of organs, and about a dozen people on the lists die each day.

Some 3,817 Americans received human donor hearts last year as replacements, more than ever before, but



The surgical team shows the pig heart for transplant Friday in Baltimore. UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

the potential demand is still higher.

Scientists have worked feverishly to develop pigs whose organs would not be rejected by the human body, research accelerated in the past decade by new gene editing and cloning technologies. The heart transplant comes just months after surgeons in New York successfully attached the kidney of a genetically engineered pig to a brain-dead person.

Researchers hope procedures like this will usher in a new era in medicine when replacement organs are no longer in short supply for the more than a half-million Americans who are waiting

for kidneys and other organs.

“This is a watershed event,” said Dr. David Klassen, chief medical officer of the United Network for Organ Sharing, who was formerly a transplant surgeon at University of Maryland. “Doors are starting to open that will lead, I believe, to major changes in how we treat organ failure.”

But he added that there were many hurdles to overcome before such a procedure could be broadly applied, noting that rejection of organs occurs even when a well-matched human donor kidney is transplanted.

“Events like these can be dramatized in the press, and it’s important to maintain

perspective,” Klassen said. “It takes a long time to mature a therapy like this.”

Bennett decided to gamble on the experimental treatment because he would have died without a new heart, had exhausted other treatments and was too sick to qualify for a human donor heart, family members and doctors said.

His prognosis is uncertain. Bennett is still connected to a heart-lung bypass machine, which was keeping him alive before the operation, but that is not unusual for a new heart transplant recipient, experts said.

The new heart is functioning and already doing most of the work, and his doctors

said he could be taken off the machine Tuesday. Bennett is being monitored for signs that his body is rejecting the new organ, but the first 48 hours, which are critical, passed without incident.

He is also being monitored for infections, including porcine retrovirus, a pig virus that may be transmitted to humans, although the risk is considered low.

“It was either die or do this transplant,” Bennett said before the surgery, according to officials at the University of Maryland Medical Center. “I want to live. I know it’s a shot in the dark, but it’s my last choice.”

Xenotransplantation, the

process of grafting or transplanting organs or tissues from animals to humans, has a long history. Efforts to use the blood and skin of animals go back hundreds of years.

In the 1960s, chimpanzee kidneys were transplanted into some human patients, but the longest a recipient lived was nine months. In 1983, a baboon heart was transplanted into an infant known as Baby Fae, but she died 20 days later.

Pigs offer advantages over primates for organ procurements because they are easier to raise and achieve adult human size in six months. Pig heart valves are routinely transplanted into humans, and some patients with diabetes have received porcine pancreas cells.

Pigskin has also been used as a temporary graft for burn patients.

Two newer technologies — gene editing and cloning — have yielded genetically altered pig organs less likely to be rejected by humans.

Pig hearts have been transplanted successfully into baboons by Dr. Muhammad Mohiuddin, a professor of surgery at University of Maryland School of Medicine who established the cardiac xenotransplantation program with Griffith and is its scientific director.

But safety concerns and fear of setting off a dangerous immune response that can be life-threatening precluded their use in humans until recently.

The heart transplanted into Bennett came from a genetically altered pig provided by Revivicor, a regenerative medicine company based in Blacksburg, Virginia.

Private health insurers told to pay for cost of home COVID-19 tests

Reimbursement to cover 8 exams per person each month

By Zeke Miller
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Starting Saturday, private health insurers will be required to cover up to eight home COVID-19 tests per month for people on their plans. The Biden administration announced the change Monday as it looks to lower costs and make testing for the virus more convenient amid rising frustrations.

Under the new policy, Americans will be able to either purchase home testing kits for free under their insurance or submit receipts for the tests for reimbursement, up to the monthly per-person limit. A family of four, for instance, could be reimbursed for up to 32 tests per month. PCR tests and rapid tests ordered or administered by a health provider will continue to be fully covered by insurance

with no limit.

President Joe Biden faced criticism over the holiday season for a shortage of at-home rapid tests as Americans traveled to see family amid the surge in cases from the more transmissible omicron variant. Now the administration is working to make COVID-19 home tests more accessible, both by increasing supply and bringing down costs.

Later this month, the federal government will launch a website to begin making 500 million at-home COVID-19 tests available via mail. The administration also is scaling up emergency rapid-testing sites in areas experiencing the greatest surges in cases.

The insurer-covered testing would dramatically reduce costs for many Americans, and the administration hopes that by easing a barrier to more regular at-home testing, it can help slow the spread of the virus, get kids back into school more quickly and help people gather safely.

“This is all part of our overall strategy to ramp up access to easy-to-use, at-home tests at no cost,” Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra said in a statement. “By requiring private health plans to cover people’s at-home tests, we are further expanding Americans’ ability to get tests for free when they need them.”

Biden announced the federal requirement late last year, and it kicks in on Jan. 15, but the administration had been silent until now on details of the plan.

The administration is trying to incentivize private insurers to cover the tests up-front and without a cumbersome reimbursement process. Insurance plans that work with pharmacies and retailers to cover the up-front costs of the tests will be required to reimburse only up to \$12 per test if purchased through an out-of-network retailer. Plans that don’t move proactively to set up a network of pharmacies would have to cover the full

retail price that the customer paid — which could be more than \$12 per test.

There was no immediate reaction from insurers, or details yet on potential insurer and retailer partnerships ahead of Saturday’s effective date.

Only tests purchased on or after Jan. 15 will be required to be reimbursed, the administration said. Some insurers may choose to cover the costs of at-home tests purchased earlier, but they won’t have to.

Americans on Medicare won’t be able to get tests reimbursed through the federal insurance plan, but Medicaid and Children’s Health Insurance Program plans are required to cover the cost of at-home tests fully. Those who are not on a covered insurance plan can receive free tests through the forthcoming federal website or from some local community centers and pharmacies.

Meanwhile, in a reaction to the severe hospital staffing shortages and crushing caseloads that the omicron



A health worker picks up virus test kits during a distribution event last month in Youngstown, Ohio. The Biden administration has sought to deliver more tests to people. DAVID DERMER/AP

variant is causing, hospitals around the U.S. are increasingly taking the extraordinary step of allowing nurses and other workers infected with the coronavirus to stay on the job if they have mild symptoms or none at all.

California health authorities announced over the weekend that hospital staff members who test positive but are symptom-free can continue working. Some hospitals in Rhode Island and Arizona have likewise told employees they can stay on the job if they have no symptoms or just mild ones. The highly contagious

omicron variant has sent new cases of COVID-19 exploding to over 700,000 a day in the U.S. on average, obliterating the record set a year ago. The number of Americans in the hospital with the virus is running at about 108,000, just short of the peak of 124,000 last January.

Last month, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention said that health care workers who have no symptoms can return to work after seven days with a negative test, but that the isolation time can be cut further if there are staffing shortages.

ROBERT DURST 1943-2022

NY real estate heir convicted in Sept. of killing best friend

By Andrew Dalton
and Brian Melley
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Robert Durst, the wealthy New York real estate heir and failed fugitive who was dogged for decades with suspicion in the disappearance and deaths of those around him before he was convicted last year of killing his best friend, died Monday. He was 78.

Durst died of natural causes in a hospital outside the California prison where he was serving a life sentence, according to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Durst had been held in a hospital lockup in Stockton due to a litany of ailments.

Durst was convicted in September of shooting Susan Berman at point-blank range at her Los Angeles home in

2000. He was sentenced Oct. 14 to life in prison without parole.

Durst had long been suspected of killing his wife, Kathie, who went missing in New York in 1982 and was declared legally dead decades later.

But only after Los Angeles prosecutors proved he silenced Berman before she could tell police she helped him cover up Kathie’s killing was Durst indicted by a New York grand jury in November for second-degree murder in his wife’s death.

Los Angeles prosecutors also told jurors Durst got away with murder in Texas after shooting a man who discovered his identity when he was hiding out in Galveston after Berman’s killing. Durst was acquitted of murder in that case in 2003,

after testifying he shot the man as they struggled for a gun.

Deputy Los Angeles District Attorney John Lewin said jurors told him after the verdict that they believed Durst had killed his wife and murdered Morris Black in Texas.

Durst discussed the cases and made several damning statements, including a confession, in the six-part HBO documentary series “The Jinx: The Life and Deaths of Robert Durst.”

The show made his name known to a new generation and brought renewed scrutiny and suspicion from authorities. He was arrested in Berman’s killing the night before the final episode, which closed with him



Durst

mumbling to himself in a bathroom while still wearing a hot microphone, saying: “You’re caught! What the hell did I do? Killed them all, of course.”

The quotes were later revealed to have been manipulated for dramatic effect but the production — done with Durst’s cooperation against the advice from his lawyer and friends — dredged up new evidence including an envelope that connected Durst to the scene of Berman’s killing as well as incriminating statements he made.

Durst went on the run in late 2000 after New York authorities reopened an investigation into his wife’s disappearance, renting a

modest apartment in Galveston and disguising himself as a mute woman.

In 2001, the body parts of a neighbor, Black, began washing up in Galveston Bay.

Arrested in the killing, Durst jumped bail. He was arrested for shoplifting a sandwich six weeks later in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, where he had gone to college. Police found \$37,000 cash and two handguns in his car.

He would testify that Black had pulled a gun on him and died when the weapon went off during a struggle. He told jurors in detail how he bought tools and dismembered and disposed of Black’s body. While he was cleared of murder, he pleaded guilty to violating his bail, and to evidence tampering for the dismemberment. He served three years in prison.

Durst had bladder cancer and his health deteriorated during the Berman trial.

He was escorted into court in a wheelchair wearing prison attire each day because his attorneys said he was unable to change into a suit. But the judge declined further delays after a 14-month pause during the coronavirus pandemic.

Durst was born April 12, 1943, and grew up in Scarsdale, New York. He is survived by his second wife, Deborah Charatan, whom he married in 2000. He had no children.

Under California law, a conviction is vacated if a defendant dies while the case is under appeal, said Laurie Levenson, a law professor at Loyola Law School.

Attorney Chip Lewis said an appeal was filed for Durst.

WORLD & NATION

Governors lose taste for mandates

More states leaving it up to public to police themselves

By Jeffrey Collins
Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Governors took sweeping actions during earlier surges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many closed schools and ordered businesses shut down. They issued mask mandates, vaccine requirements and even quarantines in some places for people who had traveled to out-of-state hot spots.

Not this time, even as the exponential spread of the super-contagious omicron variant shatters COVID-19 infection records. While governors are sending help to hospitals, they are displaying little appetite for widespread public orders or shutdowns.

Even Democratic governors who passed strict mandates early on are now relying more on persuasion than dictates. They largely are leaving it up to local officials to make the tough calls on decisions such as whether to limit capacity in restaurants and theaters or keep schools open.

South Carolina set a record for positive tests over the New Year's week-end and COVID-19 hospitalizations are up 67% from the week before. But Gov. Henry McMaster, a Republican, urged everyone to carry on as if everything's fine. "If you get real sick, there will be room in the hospitals," he promised last week.

"There's no need to panic. Be calm. Be happy," McMaster said. "We just had a great Christmas season. Business is booming."

McMaster has consistently urged people to get vaccinated and in the earliest days of the pandemic, he directed K-12 schools and colleges to move to distance learning. But students are back in classrooms across



Dr. Brooke Decker, left, argues with a woman about her opposition to a mask mandate in McCandless, Pa. ALEXANDRA WIMLEY/PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE 2021

the state, and he continues to resist imposing any statewide business shutdowns.

California is grappling with an astonishing spike in infections, and the state health department extended an indoor mask mandate to Feb. 15, but the state's Democratic leaders included no mechanism to enforce it. "I think a lot of people will self-enforce and do the right thing," Gov. Gavin Newsom told reporters last month.

The sentiment seems familiar to Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan. The Republican announced a 30-day state of emergency to fight the omicron variant surge, but it doesn't include the same statewide mask mandate ordered earlier in the pandemic.

"I'm not sure the people that are refusing to wear a mask are going to wear one

anyway, and we don't have the ability to enforce it," Hogan said. "So we're just strongly encouraging people to wear the damn mask."

New Jersey has had the second-largest U.S. case-load during this surge, after New York, and Democratic Gov. Phil Murphy asked the legislature to renew his emergency powers so he can continue a mask mandate in schools. But renewed business shutdowns and near universal mask mandates appear to be off the table, and instead of issuing new executive orders, he's urging people to follow public health recommendations.

Even governors who pushed the hardest for restrictions during earlier outbreaks have settled on appealing for people to take personal responsibility. Oregon removed its mask

requirement from outdoor crowds in November and hasn't reinstated it. Schools and businesses remain open, and Democratic Gov. Kate Brown has urged booster shots as the best way to combat the virus.

Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine, a Republican, was one of the first to close schools in March 2020 as the virus began spreading rapidly through the U.S. But his desire to take aggressive measures has waned, and since the summer he has focused on voluntary mask wearing and vaccinations.

"We don't have the practical ability to really put on a statewide mask order at this point," DeWine said in late December. "I don't think it's appropriate at this point. We have the vaccine. We have the tools."

Montana Gov. Greg

Gianforte, while listing his accomplishments during his first year in office last week, said that through previous COVID-19 surges there was little differences in case counts between states run by Republicans that tended to take fewer precautions and those run by Democrats, which generally took stronger actions.

"Heavy-handed, one-size-fits-all mandates don't work," Gianforte said.

In North Carolina, Democratic Gov. Roy Cooper is still leaving it to local governments to decide whether masks should be required in stores or government buildings rather than ordering them statewide, and encouraging but not requiring local school boards to retain mask mandates for students and staff.

Cooper has taken this tack

even though the Republican-controlled legislature has lacked veto-proof majorities necessary to overturn his previous statewide COVID-19 mandates.

"We're going to have to learn how to live with it, and continue to keep our kids in school and our businesses open and all of our government operations running effectively and efficiently," Cooper said. Pandemic fatigue among the public has led Utah Gov. Spencer Cox to suggest COVID-19 and its variants could be treated more like the flu or any other contagious disease. The focus, he said, should be on reducing the effects of the illness through vaccines and medicines, not government mandates. On Thursday, he encouraged people to wear masks as cases hit record levels.



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WORLD & NATION

Billionaire’s looted art surrendered

Museums facing greater scrutiny over provenance

By Ilan Ben Zion
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — One of the Israel Museum’s biggest patrons, American billionaire Michael Steinhardt, approached the flagship Israeli art institution in 2007 with an artifact he had recently bought: a 2,200-year-old Greek text carved into limestone. But shortly after it went on display, an expert noticed something odd — two chunks of text found a year earlier during a dig near Jerusalem fit the limestone slab like a jigsaw puzzle. It soon became clear that Steinhardt’s tablet came from the same cave. Last month, Steinhardt surrendered the piece, known as the Heliodorus Stele, and 179 other artifacts valued at roughly \$70 million as part of a landmark deal with the Manhattan District Attorney’s office to avoid prosecution. Eight Neolithic masks loaned by Steinhardt to the Israel Museum for a 2014 exhibition were also seized under the deal, including two that remain exhibited at the museum. Museums worldwide are facing greater scrutiny over the provenance — or chain of ownership — of their art, particularly those looted from conflict zones or illegally plundered from archaeologically sites. There are growing calls for such items to be returned to their countries of origin. Donna Yates, a criminologist specializing in artifact smuggling at Maastricht University, said recent scandals involving looted artifacts — such as the Denver Art Museum’s return of Cambodian antiquities — are “causing museums to reconsider the ownership history of some of the objects that they have.”



A Neolithic mask loaned by American billionaire Michael Steinhardt, center, is displayed at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem. The artifact was among 180 recently surrendered by Steinhardt to avoid prosecution in the United States. **MAYA ALLERUZZO/AP**

“They can’t really afford the public embarrassment of constantly being linked to this kind of thing, because museums aren’t wealthy and many of them hold a place of public trust,” she said. In addition to the Heliodorus Stele and two of the ancient masks, at least one other Steinhardt-owned artifact in the Israel Museum is of uncertain provenance: a 2,800-year-old inscription on black volcanic stone. The museum’s display states the origin as Moab, an ancient kingdom in modern-day Jordan. How it got to Jerusalem remains unclear. Steinhardt gave the Royal Moabite Inscription to the museum on extended loan in 2002, shortly after buying it from a licensed dealer in Jerusalem, said Amir Ganor, who heads the Israel Antiquities Authority’s theft prevention unit. That dealer, who confirmed the deal but

spoke on condition of anonymity because of the legal questions surrounding the item, told The Associated Press that he obtained the inscription from a Palestinian colleague in Bethlehem, in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, who didn’t specify its provenance. “I don’t know how it got to the dealer in Jerusalem,” Ganor said. He said it could have come from the West Bank, neighboring Jordan or through Dubai, a longtime antiquities hub. The Israel Museum declined interview requests and refused to show the artifact’s documentation. But in a statement, it denied wrongdoing, saying it “consistently follows the applicable regulations at the time the works are loaned.” The Manhattan District Attorney’s Office said the Moabite Inscription wasn’t part of the Steinhardt investigation and declined to discuss the item.

James Snyder, who was the Israel Museum’s director from 1997 to 2016, said all artifacts coming to the museum have their provenance checked by the IAA before they’re exhibited, and that Steinhardt’s other looted artworks “came with documentation of legal ownership.” “We were given documentation of legal purchase, it was approved to come in on loan and it was approved to be returned” by the authority, Snyder said. Israel has a legal antiquities market run by some 55 licensed dealers. They are allowed to sell items discovered before 1978, when a law took effect making all newfound artifacts state property. This market has provided an outlet for the laundering of smuggled and plundered antiquities from around the Middle East that are given fabricated documentation by dealers in Israel. Israel

began closing that loophole in 2016, when it mandated a digital database of dealers’ artifacts. Israel recently returned smuggled antiquities found in dealers’ stores to Egypt and Libya. Other antiquities stolen from Iraq and Syria — including thousands of cuneiform tablets purchased by Hobby Lobby owner Steve Green in 2010 — were smuggled to Israeli dealers before being sold to collectors with fraudulent documentation. Morag Kersel, archaeology professor at DePaul University in Illinois, said the wanton plunder of archaeological sites across the Middle East ultimately “is all demand driven.” “Looters do this because there’s someone like Steinhardt who’s willing to pay money and buy things that come straight out of the ground,” she said. Under the deal, the Manhattan District Attorney

seized 180 of Steinhardt’s artifacts and will repatriate them to their respective countries. Steinhardt also agreed to a lifetime ban from acquiring antiquities — though it is unclear how that ban will be enforced. Steinhardt, 81, is a longtime patron of the Israel Museum and many other Israeli institutions, including a natural history museum at Tel Aviv University bearing his name. Since 2001, his family foundation has donated over \$6.6 million to the Israel Museum, according to partial U.S. tax filings. Steinhardt was not accused of plundering any items himself and has said he did not commit any crimes. But the DA’s office said he “knew, or should have ascertained by reasonable inquiry” that the antiquities were stolen. Steinhardt declined an interview request. The DA began investigating Steinhardt’s massive antiquities collection in 2017 after he loaned a Bull’s Head sculpture to the Metropolitan Museum of Art that had been plundered from a site in Lebanon. The DA says the three items at the Israel Museum are “effectively seized in place,” and has opened talks with Israel to coordinate the return of 28 additional items. It said Steinhardt “has been unable to locate” the final nine items traced to Israel. Of those 40 artifacts, more than half are believed to have been plundered from West Bank sites, according to court documents. An additional nine artifacts from Jordan, many sold to Steinhardt through Israel’s licensed antiquities market, are also being repatriated. Neither the Jordanian government nor the Palestinian Tourism and Antiquities Ministry responded to requests for comment. The Israel Museum said it had only recently learned about the settlement and is examining the matter.



Firefighters on Monday work outside the apartment building in the Bronx borough of New York City. The death toll in the city’s deadliest fire in three decades fell to 17. **YUKI IWAMURA/AP**

NYC probe turns to failure of safety features in fatal fire

By David Porter,
Bobby Caina Calvin
and Michelle L. Price
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Investigators sought answers Monday for why key safety features failed when fire broke out in a New York high-rise, funneling thick smoke through the tower and killing 17 people, including eight children, in the city’s deadliest blaze in three decades. A malfunctioning electric space heater apparently started the fire Sunday in the 19-story building in the Bronx, fire officials said. The flames damaged only a small part of the building, but smoke poured through the apartment’s open door and turned stairwells — the only method of escape in a building too tall for fire escapes — into dark, ash-choked death traps. Fire Commissioner Daniel Nigro said the apartment’s front door and a door on the 15th floor should have been self-closing, blunting the spread of smoke, but the doors malfunctioned and stayed fully open. Dozens of people were

hospitalized, including several in critical condition. Mayor Eric Adams called it an “unspeakable tragedy” at a news conference near the scene Monday. Adams lowered the death toll from an initial report Sunday, saying that two fewer people were killed than originally thought. Nigro said patients were taken to seven hospitals and “there was a bit of a double count.” The dead included children as young as 4 years old, City Council Member Oswald Feliz said. Some people could not escape because of the smoke, Nigro said. Others became incapacitated as they tried to get out. Firefighters found victims on every floor, many in cardiac and respiratory arrest, Nigro said. Limp children were given oxygen after they were carried out. Some who fled had soot-covered faces. Firefighters continued making rescues even after their air supplies ran out, Adams said. “Their oxygen tanks were empty, and they still pushed through the smoke,” he said. An investigation was

underway to determine how the fire spread and whether anything could have been done to prevent or contain the blaze, Nigro said. A fire department official said the space heater had been running for a “prolonged period” before the fire began. What caused it to malfunction remains under investigation, spokesman Frank Dwyer said. Fire then spread to nearby furniture and bedding, he said. Large, new apartment buildings are required to have sprinkler systems and interior doors that swing shut automatically to contain smoke and deprive fires of oxygen, but those rules do not apply to thousands of the city’s older buildings. The building was equipped with smoke alarms, but several residents said they initially ignored them because alarms were so common in the 120-unit building. Bronx Park Phase III Preservation LLC, the group that owns the building, said it was cooperating with the fire department and the city and working to assist residents.

Invoking Jan. 6, Dems pivot to fight for voting legislation

By Brian Slodysko
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democrats are mounting an impassioned bid to overhaul Senate rules that stand in the way of their sweeping voting legislation, arguing dark forces unleashed by Donald Trump’s falsehoods about the 2020 election demand an extraordinary response. In fiery speeches and interviews, President Joe Biden and top congressional Democrats have seized on the first anniversary of the Jan. 6 insurrection as a reason to advance their long-stalled voting, ethics and elections package. Senate Republicans, who have repeatedly blocked the legislation, exorcise the measures as a “partisan power grab” and warn that any rule changes will haunt Democrats someday under a GOP majority. Trump’s false claims of a stolen election not only incited the mob that stormed the Capitol, Democrats say. His unrelenting campaign of disinformation also sparked a GOP effort to pass new state laws that have made it more difficult to vote, while in some cases rendering the administration of elections more susceptible to political influence. Democrats’ voting legislation would usher in the biggest overhaul of U.S. elections in a generation, striking down hurdles to voting enacted in the name of election security, reducing the influence of big money in politics and limiting partisan influence over the drawing of congressional districts. The package would create national election standards that would trump the state-level GOP laws. It would also restore the ability of the Justice Department to police election laws in states with a history of discrimination. Many Democrats say



Sen. Patrick Leahy, right, talks about voting rights at the Capitol. With Leahy are Sens. Chuck Schumer, left, Raphael Warnock and Amy Klobuchar. **J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP 2021**

the moment has come to act decisively in what they view as the civil rights fight of the era. Changing Senate rules early in 2022 offers perhaps the last best chance to counteract Republicans’ state-level push before the midterm elections, when Democrats’ House majority and slim hold in the 50-50 Senate could be wiped out. “If Republicans continue to hijack the rules of the chamber to prevent us from protecting our democracy, then the Senate will debate and consider changes to the rules,” Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., said Friday. Yet what action they will take remains highly uncertain, depending on the often elusive support of Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va. Key Democrats have been meeting with Manchin for weeks, brainstorming options while also enlisting outside allies to lobby his support. Manchin has made no firm commitments. He has repeatedly said he will not support lowering the filibuster’s 60-vote threshold for passing most legislation, a stance shared by fellow centrist Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz. Until the threshold is lowered, enacting election legislation could prove difficult, if not impossible.

But Democrats say they are focused on what’s achievable now, amid escalating pressure from allies for action. Even modest changes to Senate rules, they say, would be a step forward. Leaning into the fight, Biden is set to deliver a speech Tuesday in Atlanta focused on voting rights. And Schumer has added to the civil rights symbolism by setting the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday, on Jan. 17, as the deadline to either pass the voting legislation or consider revising the rules. The Senate is likely to hold a series of test votes this week intended to underscore GOP opposition. Republicans say invoking the Jan. 6 insurrection is offensive. The voting bills, they say, were largely written before the attack and include a liberal wish list that will do little to combat vulnerabilities in the law exposed by Trump’s attempts to overturn the election. The renewed focus on voting rights comes as much of Biden’s agenda has stalled in Congress. Before Christmas, Manchin halted work on Biden’s \$2 trillion package of social and environmental initiatives, delaying the bill indefinitely.

WORLD & NATION

NEWS BRIEFS

Myanmar’s Suu Kyi gets 4 more years in prison, official says

From news services

BANGKOK — A court in Myanmar sentenced ousted leader Aung San Suu Kyi to four more years in prison Monday after finding her guilty of illegally importing and possessing walkie-talkies and violating coronavirus restrictions, a legal official said.

Suu Kyi was convicted last month on two other charges and given a four-year prison sentence, which was then halved by the head of the military-installed government.

The cases are among about a dozen brought against the Nobel Peace Prize laureate since the army seized power last February, ousting her elected government and arresting top members of her National League for Democracy party.

If found guilty of all the charges, Suu Kyi, 76, could be sentenced to more than 100 years in prison.

Monday’s verdict in the court in the capital, Naypyitaw, was conveyed by a legal official who insisted on anonymity for fear of being punished by the authorities, who have restricted the release of information about Suu Kyi’s trials.

Suu Kyi’s party won a landslide victory in a 2020 general election, but the military claimed there was widespread electoral fraud, an assertion that independent poll watchers doubt.

She is being held by the military at an unknown location, where state television reported last month she would serve her sentence.

The military-installed government has not allowed any outside party to meet with Suu Kyi since it seized power, despite international pressure for talks including her that could ease the country’s violent political crisis.

The military’s seizure of power was quickly met by nonviolent nationwide demonstrations, which security forces quashed with deadly force, killing over 1,400 civilians, according to a detailed list compiled by the Assistance Association for Political Prisoners.

Jan. 6 House panel: Republican Rep. Jim Jordan of Ohio, one of former President Donald Trump’s closest allies in Congress, rejected a request for an interview by the House panel investigating the Jan. 6 Capitol insurrection.

In a letter to committee chairman Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., Jordan said, “The American people are tired of Democrats’ nonstop investigations and partisan witch hunts.”

Thompson told Jordan in a letter last month that the panel wants him to provide information surrounding his communications with Trump on Jan. 6 and Trump’s efforts to challenge the result of the 2020 election.

“We understand that you had at least one and possibly multiple communications with President Trump on January 6th,” the letter read. “We would like to discuss each such communication with you in detail.”

In his response Sunday, Jordan insisted, “I have no relevant information that would assist the Select Committee in advancing any legitimate legislative purpose.”

Jordan brought up false claims about voter fraud during an October hearing on a motion to hold former White House chief strategist Steve Bannon in contempt for refusing to comply with a congressional subpoena. Jordan admitted that he spoke with Trump on the day of the attack.

The panel is also seeking information regarding Jordan’s meeting with Trump and members of his administration in November and December 2020, and in early January 2021, “about strategies for overturning the results of the 2020 election.”

Pope about vaccines: Pope Francis suggested Monday that getting vaccinated against the coronavirus was a “moral obligation” and denounced how people had been swayed by “baseless information” to refuse one of the most effective measures to save lives during the pandemic.

Francis, 85, used some of his strongest words yet calling for people to get vaccinated in a speech to ambassadors accredited to the Holy See, an annual event in which he sets out the Vatican’s foreign policy goals for the year.

“Vaccines are not a magical means of healing, yet surely they represent, in addition to other treatments that need to be developed, the most reasonable solution for the prevention of the disease,” he said.

Francis and Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI have been fully vaccinated with Pfizer-BioNTech shots.

Some Catholics have claimed that vaccines based on research that used cells derived from aborted fetuses were immoral and have refused to get the shots.

Ugandan schools reopen: Uganda’s schools reopened to students Monday, ending the world’s longest school disruption due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The reopening caused traffic congestion in some areas of the capital, Kampala, and students can be seen carrying their mattresses in the streets, a back-to-boarding school phenomenon not witnessed here for nearly two years.

Uganda’s schools have been fully or partially shut for more than 83 weeks, the world’s longest disruption, according to figures from the U.N. cultural agency. The shutdown affected more than 10 million learners.

The East African country of 44 million people first shut down its schools in March 2020, shortly after the first coronavirus case was confirmed on the African continent. Some classes were reopened to students in February 2021, but a total lockdown was imposed again in June as the country faced its first major surge.

Kazakhstan protests: Nearly 8,000 people in Kazakhstan were detained by police during protests that descended into violence last week and marked the worst unrest the former Soviet nation has faced since gaining independence 30 years ago, authorities said Monday.

President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev on Monday described the unrest that followed initially peaceful protests against rising energy prices as a “terrorist aggression” against the mineral-rich Central Asian nation of 19 million and dismissed reports that authorities targeted peaceful demonstrators as “disinformation.”

Saget scene: Comedian and actor Bob Saget, 65, was found dead lying face up on his bed in a luxury hotel room in Florida with no signs of trauma, according to an sheriff’s office report released Monday.

There were no signs of foul play, and the room itself was in order, “with items owned by Mr. Saget on the nightstand, television stand, closet and bathroom,” according to the report from the Orange County Sheriff’s Office.

Saget’s left arm was across his chest and his right arm was resting on his bed when deputies and paramedics arrived Sunday at his room at the Ritz Carlton in Orlando and pronounced him dead, the report said.



Bodycam footage shows how a pilot of a single-engine plane averted death twice Sunday, first when he crash-landed onto railroad tracks, then when police officers rescued him, bottom right, just before a commuter train smashed into the Cessna 172. The plane had engine failure after taking off from Whiteman Airport in the Pacoima neighborhood of Los Angeles. LAPD VIDEO



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BUSINESS

COURANT.COM / BUSINESS

Becerra tells Medicare to reassess ‘Part B’ hike

Directive made after Biogen cut cost of pricey new Alzheimer’s drug by 50%

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. health secretary Xavier Becerra on Monday ordered Medicare to reassess a big premium increase facing millions of enrollees this year, attributed in large part to a pricey new Alzheimer’s drug with questionable benefits.

Becerra’s directive came days after drugmaker Biogen slashed the price of its \$56,000-a-year medication, Aduhelm, to \$28,200-a-year — a cut of about half.

“With the 50% price drop of Aduhelm on Jan. 1, there is a compelling basis ... to reexamine the previous recommendation,” Becerra said in a statement about his directive to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

More than 50 million Medicare recipients who pay the \$170.10 monthly “Part B” premium for outpatient care will see no immediate change to their costs, but Monday’s move could open the way for a reduction later in the year. The Department

of Health and Human Services says it is reaching out to the Social Security Administration, which collects the premium, to examine options.

Medicare’s standard premium is rising by about \$22 this year, up from \$148.50 in 2021 and one of the biggest annual increases ever. About half of that, \$11, was attributed to the potential costs of having to cover Aduhelm at its original \$56,000 price. Since Aduhelm is administered by infusion in a doctor’s office, the cost is factored into Medicare’s outpatient coverage, not the separate prescription plan that pays for pharmacy medicines.

Becerra’s move came after Democratic senators urged the Biden administration to take immediate steps to cut rising drug costs for seniors. Much bigger curbs on drug prices promised by Democrats are hung up in Congress along with the rest of President Joe Biden’s massive social agenda legislation.

That bill would cap at \$2,000 a year the amount Medicare recipients have to pay out-of-pocket for medicines, require drug-

makers to pay the government rebates if they hike prices faster than inflation, and authorize Medicare to negotiate prices for certain medications.

In announcing the price cut just days before the Christmas holidays, Biogen acknowledged the high cost had become a stumbling block to uptake for its medication.

“Too many patients are not being offered the choice of Aduhelm due to financial considerations and are thus progressing beyond the point of benefiting from the first treatment to address an underlying pathology of Alzheimer’s disease,” CEO Michel Vounatsos said at the time. “We recognize that this challenge must be addressed in a way that is perceived to be sustainable for the U.S. health care system.”

Medicare is covering Aduhelm on a case-by-case basis.

Later this week, the agency is expected to issue an initial coverage decision, but the process of finalizing it can take months.

Medicare said Monday it is reviewing Becerra’s request to determine next steps.



Glendon Mehuren II and daughter Elida Dickey help with a newborn calf at Faithful Venture Farm, a Searsmont, Maine-based organic dairy farm. Competition from Western states is affecting such farms across the Northeast. **TRISTAN SPINSKI/THE NEW YORK TIMES 2021**

Farms all shook up over milk

Northeast dairies are under pressure as major companies look west for organic product

By Murray Carpenter
The New York Times

SEARSMONT, Maine — Glendon Mehuren II’s Faithful Venture Farm, 35 miles east of the state capital of Augusta, looks as tranquil as the farms pictured on cartons of organic milk.

But things have been rough since August. That’s when Mehuren got a certified letter from Horizon Organic, which had been buying his milk for 16 years. It said it was terminating his contract in a year. Horizon delivered the same letter to 88 other organic dairy farms from Maine to New York.

In December, Horizon gave all of the affected farmers a reprieve, extending their contracts until February 2023 and paying a bit more for the milk. But the future for small dairy farmers in the Northeast still appears difficult.

For the past 20 years, organic milk offered a lifeline for small farms in the Northeast, allowing them to stay afloat while milking

100 cows or fewer. Now those farms are facing trouble because there is a lack of milk processors in the region and a glut of milk from huge organic dairies in Western states.

One December morning, Mehuren rattled off the names of the many nearby dairy farms that had failed over the past few decades. The farms that survived expanded, hoping that volume would offset low milk prices, he said.

“Milk prices were very low in the early 2000s,” he said, and many small farmers felt the only options were to grow or die. “Then the organic deal kind of came along.”

That gave smaller farmers a third option. Mehuren earned organic certification for his farm and dairy herd and began selling milk to Horizon in 2005.

Since then, organic milk has grown to account for more than 5% of the nation’s milk market, and it is dominated by big businesses. Horizon Organic is owned by the French corporation Danone. Stonyfield Organic, the yogurt-maker in New Hampshire that buys organic milk from New England farmers, is owned by Lactalis. And the farmer-owned cooperative Organic Valley, based in Wisconsin, now has more than \$1 billion in annual revenue.

Meanwhile, bottling became consol-

idated in larger milk plants outside New England.

“If you go to a grocery store in Maine, there is Horizon milk on the shelves, and, yes, Horizon is picking up from 14 producers in Maine,” said Sarah Alexander, the executive director of the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association. “But the milk that’s on the shelves may be coming from Colorado, it may be coming from Ohio, it may be coming from Virginia.”

Chris Adamo, the vice president for government affairs, policy and partnerships at Danone North America, said several factors contributed to Horizon’s withdrawal from New England.

“The Northeast region provides a number of continuing challenges to pick up and transport milk to the processing facility we use in Western New York,” Adamo said in an emailed statement.

As Horizon withdraws, another challenge for organic dairy farmers in the Northeast is competition from larger farms.

One company, Aurora Organic, has 27,000 dairy cows on four farms in Colorado and Texas, according to its website — the equivalent of about 500 small New England farms. Alexander called such operations “factory farms.”

Take-Two buys Zynga in a \$12.7B gaming deal

By Michelle Chapman
Associated Press

Take-Two Interactive, maker of “Grand Theft Auto” and “Red Dead Redemption,” is buying Zynga, maker of “FarmVille” and “Words With Friends,” in a cash-and-stock deal valued at \$12.7 billion.

The acquisition announced Monday would wed a powerhouse in console gaming, Take-Two, with a mobile gaming company with an almost cult-like following. Zynga shareholders will receive \$3.50 in cash and \$6.36 in shares of Take-Two common stock for each share of Zynga outstanding stock at closing. The transaction is valued at \$9.86 per share of Zynga common stock.

“This strategic combination brings together our best-in-class console and PC franchises, with a market-leading, diversified mobile publishing platform that has a rich history of innovation and creativity,” Take-Two Chairman and CEO Strauss Zelnick said in a prepared statement. He will retain those roles when the companies become one.

Take-Two anticipates the deal will help bring about mobile versions of some of its console and personal computer based games.

Take-Two said Monday that it anticipates about \$100 million in annual cost savings within the first two years after the transaction is complete. The deal is expected to close during the first quarter of Take-Two’s fiscal 2023, ending June 30.

Zynga CEO Frank Gibeau and its president of publishing, Bernard Kim, will oversee the integration and day-to-day operations of the combined Zynga and T2 Mobile Games business, which will operate under the Zynga brand as its own label within the Take-Two.

The transaction includes a provision giving Zynga 45 days to hear other proposals.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

UK pay order on unsafe cladding

LONDON — The British government Monday told property developers they must bear the cost of removing dangerous cladding that has left scores of apartment buildings at risk of fire, and thousands of residents facing steep bills to make their homes safe.

The risk posed by some kinds of aluminum composite cladding was exposed when fire engulfed London high-rise Grenfell Tower in June 2017, killing 72 people in Britain’s deadliest domestic blaze since World War II.

Investigators found that the building’s flammable cladding helped the fire race out of control.

Safety regulations since then require similar dangerous cladding to be removed, but the work hasn’t been done on some buildings because of wrangling over who should pay.

Ex-VP strategist to join MSNBC

Symone Sanders, the former chief spokeswoman for Vice President Kamala Harris, is joining MSNBC as an anchor and will host a new weekend program on the cable channel, the network said Monday.

Sanders, 32, who left her post with Harris at the end of December, is the most prominent member of the Biden White House to shift from politics into a full-time job in the news media.

The format, title and time slot of her MSNBC program, which will air Saturdays and Sundays starting in the spring, are to be determined.

She will also serve as a fill-in anchor on the network and host a show on The Choice, the streaming arm of MSNBC on NBCUniversal’s digital service, Peacock.

Report: Disasters cost insurers \$120B in 2021

By Frank Jordans
Associated Press

BERLIN — Damage wrought by Hurricane Ida in the Louisiana and the flash floods that hit Europe last summer helped make 2021 one of the most expensive years for natural disasters, reinsurance company Munich Re said Monday.

The company’s annual report put the overall economic losses from natural disasters worldwide last year at \$280 billion, making it the fourth-costliest after 2011, the year a massive earthquake and tsunami struck Japan.

Insured losses in 2021 amounted to \$120 billion, the second-highest after 2017, when hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria hit the

Americas, according to Munich Re.

More than a third of those insured losses last year were caused by Ida (\$36 billion) and the July floods in Europe (\$13 billion).

Almost 10,000 died as a result of a natural disaster in 2021, comparable to the death toll in recent years, Munich Re said.

The company warned that studies showed a link between global warming and natural disasters.

“The images of natural disasters in 2021 are disturbing,” said Torsten Jeworrek, a member Munich Re’s board of management.

“Climate research increasingly confirms that extreme weather has become more likely,” he said. “Societies need to urgently adapt to increasing weather risks and make

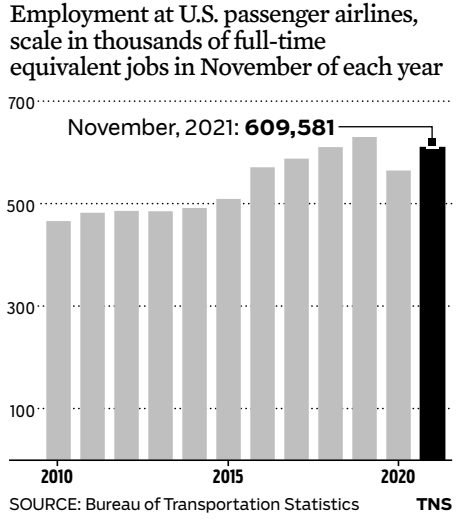
climate protection a priority.”

Satellite measurements show 2021 was one of the warmest years on record, with the annual average temperature 1.9-2.1 degrees higher than the pre-industrial period from 1850-1900, the European Union’s Copernicus Climate Change Service said Monday. Europe experienced its warmest summer on record, it said.

Scientists say that higher temperatures can cause the air to absorb more moisture, which can then lead to more extreme rainfall such as that seen in western Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands last summer.

Munich Re noted that not all natural disasters are climate-related, citing volcanic eruptions in Indonesia and Spain’s Canary Islands, and earthquakes.

Airline employment



BUSINESS

Report: Connecticut utilities face more cyberthreats

Data says attacks growing in number, sophistication

By Stephen Singer
Hartford Courant

Electric, gas and water companies are increasingly vulnerable to cyberattacks, but are keeping up with the rising number of threats, a state report says.

The Public Utilities Regulatory Authority said phishing attempts — emails claiming to be from reputable companies seeking personal information such as passwords and credit card numbers — are the largest type of attack and “pose a significant risk to all of the state’s critical infrastructure entities.”

“The array and sophistication of cybersecurity threats facing Connecticut’s public utilities seems to grow every year,” said the report, which was released Friday.

Utilities are aware of the increasing cyberthreats and are responding with cybersecurity programs, PURA said. While the types of cyberattacks have remained consistent, the number continues to grow, according to regulators.

“As attacks such as phishing become more automated and easier to conduct, more unsophisticated malicious cyber actors are entering into the cybercriminal ecosystem,” regulators said.

A lack of proper authentication was the source of many successful hacks of utility vendors and business partners, Connecticut’s utility regulators said in an annual cybersecurity report. For example, malicious cyber



An Eversource lineman works in Canton in December 2020. Electric, gas and water companies are increasingly vulnerable to cyberattacks, but are keeping up with the rising number of threats, a recent state report says. **BRAD HORRIGAN/HARTFORD COURANT**

actors gained access to the supervisory control and data acquisition system at a water treatment plant to manipulate the water treatment process, PURA said.

“The hackers exploited an outdated and unsupported computer operating system used for the utility’s operations,” the report said. “Personnel prevented any control, and operations were not disrupted.”

One of the biggest cyberattacks last year

was ransomware used against the information technology systems of Colonial Pipeline that originates in Houston. Operations were halted to contain the attack.

Cyberattacks continue to target the information technology chain and third-party vendors to gain access to networks, PURA said. And cyberattacks have gained access into many networks using legitimate credentials that were likely stolen in previous phishing

campaigns or easily guessed based on previous data breaches, regulators said.

The types of cyberattacks have remained “fairly consistent,” but the number is growing, PURA said.

“As attacks such as phishing become more automated and easier to conduct, more unsophisticated malicious cyber actors are entering into the cybercriminal ecosystem,” the report said.

In addition, ransomware actors have “continued to thrive as many new groups targeted entities within the United States this year and showed no signs of slowing down,” PURA said.

Regulators cited the sensitivity of some information to withhold details associated with utilities that participated in the fifth annual report. Arthur House, a former chairman of PURA, said utilities initially resisted the idea of regulators examining their cybersecurity systems.

He said he bargained over the process of an annual review that utilities eventually supported. Utilities are taking cybersecurity seriously and have upgraded systems and hired consultants. “They’re well-defended against normal penetration,” he said.

However, he said no utility is “safe from a probing attack by a sophisticated nation-state” such as China, Iran, North Korea or Russia.

PURA said Microsoft identified vulnerabilities in its servers that were “actively exploited by Chinese state actors” that compromised at least 30,000 devices in the United States.

Stephen Singer can be reached at ssinger@courant.com.

Texas city rejects drilling plan, sparing day care

By Cathy Bussewitz and Martha Irvine
Associated Press

Parents who send their children to a day care center in Arlington, Texas, will be able to breathe easier after the city refused to let a major energy company drill more gas wells a few hundred feet from the center’s playground.

The Arlington City Council voted 5-4 on Jan. 4 to reject the request by Total Energies to drill additional gas wells, reversing a preliminary decision by the council in November to allow the wells to go forward.

The vote marked a setback for Total and a surprise victory for community members who wanted to halt the drilling because they feared it could harm the children’s and neighboring residents’ health. The Associated Press reported on the dispute in November, with a look at people affected along the natural gas supply chain. A statis-

tical analysis of the locations of Totals wells in Arlington found a higher density of them in neighborhoods that many people of color call home.

Living close to fracking sites has been linked to health risks, including asthma, neurological and developmental disorders.

“I am elated! Relieved. It was totally unexpected,” said Rosalia Tejada, who lives a few blocks from the site with her three children. “I hope this means that the health and welfare of our children should come above anything else because they are the future, our future workforce, our future leaders.”

Total Energies said it was reviewing its options in the wake of the council vote.

The struggle between Total, a French energy giant, and Mother’s Heart Learning Center, a family-owned day care that serves predominantly Black and Latino children, has persisted for more than a year. Total pumps gas from two active wells on the property, which were drilled by a prior

owner, Chesapeake, about a decade ago. When Total originally sought approval to drill new gas wells at the site in 2020, its request was denied.

But oil and gas companies in Arlington are allowed to reapply for a permit every year, so Total applied again. In November, the council gave preliminary approval to Total’s plan to expand the drilling zone, which would have paved the way for several new rigs near the day care. But in the late-night vote last week, it reversed that decision.

Several council members had feared a lawsuit from Total if they denied the request. A Texas law makes it nearly impossible for local governments to obstruct oil and gas development.

During the council meeting, Wanda Vincent, who owns Mother’s Heart, described two incidents in December in which she said she and others at the day care were overwhelmed and sickened by fumes that she believes came from the site. Vincent’s daugh-



Wanda Vincent prepares to check the temperature of 2-year-old Olivia Grace Charles, who holds her mother’s hand at a day care center in Arlington, Texas. **MARTHA IRVINE/AP 2021**

ter Mariah, who teaches at the day care, said she heard a screeching sound and then smelled a strong odor and felt nauseous after going outside to investigate.

“What we experienced is proof that there is a problem,” Wanda Vincent said.

MARKET RUNDOWN

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

DOWN

36,068.87 -162.79

10-YR T-BOND

1.77% +.01

GOLD

\$1,798.40 +1.40

36,960

36,280

35,600

37,600

10 DAYS

36,800

36,000

35,200

34,400

33,600

J

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Dow Jones Industrials

Close: 36,068.87

Change: -162.79 (-0.4%)

Commodities

	CLOSE	PREV.	YTD
FUELS			
Crude Oil (bbl)	78.23	78.90	+4.02%
Natural Gas (mm btu)	4.08	3.92	+9.36%
Unleaded Gas (gal)	2.28	2.30	+2.11%
METALS			
Gold (oz)	1,798.40	1,797.00	-1.59%
Silver (oz)	22.45	22.39	-3.78%

(Previous and change figures reflect current contract.)

Foreign Exchange

	ForEx in U.S. \$	U.S. \$ in ForEx
Britain	1.3570	.7369
Canada	.7887	1.2680
China	.1568	6.3762
Euro	1.1324	.8831
Japan	.008679	115.22
Mexico	.049050	20.3874

Money Rates

	CLOSE	PREV. WK.
Prime rate	3.25	3.25
3-mo. T-Bill	0.13	0.09
6-mo. T-Bill	0.28	0.22
5-yr T-Note	1.53	1.37
10-yr T-Note	1.77	1.63
30-yr T-Bond	2.10	2.02

Global Markets

	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	%YTD
Frankfurt	15,768.27	-179.47	-1.13%	-.73%
London	7,445.25	-40.03	-.53%	+.82%
Hong Kong	23,746.54	+253.16	+1.08%	+1.49%
Nikkei	28,478.56	-9.31	-.03%	-1.09%

Domestic Indexes

	CLOSE	CHG.	YTD
DOW Indus.	36,068.87	-162.79	-.74%
DOW Trans.	16,018.58	-250.19	-2.79%
DOW Util.	962.66	-5.44	-1.85%
NYSE Comp.	17,119.56	-46.72	-.26%
Nasdaq Comp.	14,942.83	+6.93	-4.49%
S&P 500	4,670.29	-6.74	-2.01%
S&P 400	2,782.12	-10.95	-2.10%
Wilshire 5000	47,243.80	-77.34	-2.51%
Russell 2000	2,171.15	-8.66	-3.30%

Stocks of Local Interest									
STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG	YTD	STOCK (TICKER)	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG	YTD
AMC Entertainment A (AMC)	22.78	-.21	-16.3		Meta Platforms Inc (FB)	328.07	-3.72	-2.5	
AT&T Inc (T)	26.46	+1.17	+7.6		MetLife Inc (MET)	67.50	+.24	+8.0	
Adamis Pharma Corp (ADMP)	.73	+.16	+20.7		Microsoft Corp (MSFT)	314.27	+.23	-6.6	
Adv Micro Dev (AMD)	132.00	...	-8.3		Novartis AG (NVS)	90.08	+.77	+3.0	
American Airlines Gp (AAL)	18.79	-.49	+4.6		Nvidia Corporation (NVDA)	274.00	+1.53	-6.8	
Amphenol Corp (APH)	81.92	-.20	-6.3		Otis Worldwide Corp (OTIS)	84.66	+.30	-2.8	
Apple Inc (AAPL)	172.19	+.02	-3.0		Palantir Technol (PLTR)	16.50	-.06	-9.4	
Avangrid Inc (AGR)	48.36	-1.78	-3.0		Peoples Utd Fncl (PBCT)	20.30	-.09	+13.9	
Bank of America (BAC)	48.93	-.25	+10.0		Pfizer Inc (PFE)	56.24	+.52	-4.8	
Barnes Group (B)	47.18	-.76	+1.3		Pitney Bowes (PBI)	6.47	-.17	-2.4	
Booking Holdings (BKNG)	2426.40	-8.18	+1.1		Plug Power Inc (PLUG)	24.75	-.21	-12.3	
Brist Myr Sqb (BMY)	65.10	+2.27	+4.4		Pluristem Thera (PSTI)	1.83	+.36	+25.3	
CVS Health Corp (CVS)	105.06	+.87	+1.8		Prudential Fncl (PRU)	114.46	+.33	+5.7	
Carnival Corp (CCL)	21.40	-.50	+6.4		Pub Svc Ent Gp (PEG)	66.26	-.74	-.7	
Carrier Global Corp (CARR)	52.32	+.48	-3.5		Raytheon Technolog (RTX)	89.73	-.71	+4.3	
Charter Communic (CHTR)	605.43	-5.06	-7.1		Reviva Pharma Hldgs (RVPH)	2.97	...	+2.8	
Cigna Corp (CI)	233.69	+.51	+1.8		Robinhood Markets A (HOOD)	15.61	-.28	-12.1	
Cisco Syst (CSCO)	61.82	+.69	-2.4		Rogers Corp (ROG)	273.48	-.48	+2	
Citigroup (C)	66.03	+.25	+9.3		SS&C Technologies (SSNC)	82.61	-.35	+8	
Comcast Corp A (CMCSA)	50.52	+.47	+.4		SoFi Technologies (SOFI)	13.37	-.37	-15.4	
ContextLogic Inc (WISH)	2.59	-.17	-16.7		Stanley Black & Deck (SWK)	188.09	-1.20	-.3	
DiDi Global Inc (DIDI)	4.49	-.01	-9.8		Starwood Prop Trust (STWD)	24.91	+.04	+2.5	
Disney (DIS)	156.60	-1.23	+1.1		Sundial Growers Inc (SNDL)	.59	-.01	+1.2	
DraftKings Inc (DKNG)	26.13	-1.11	-4.9		TDH Holdings Inc (PETZ)	.74	-3.34	-80.8	
EMCOR Group Inc (EME)	123.84	-1.73	-2.8		Terex Corp (TEX)	45.99	+.55	+4.6	
Energy Transfer L.P. (ET)	9.12	-.12	+10.8		Tesla Inc (TSLA)	1058.12	+31.16	+.1	
Ethan Allen (ETD)	26.50	+.07	+.8		Tilray Inc (TLRY)	7.29	+.87	+3.7	
Eversource Energy (ES)	88.99	-.67	-2.2		Travelers Cos (TRV)	164.06	-2.18	+4.9	
Exxon Mobil Corp (XOM)	68.47	-.41	+11.9		Uber Technologies (UBER)	42.60	+1.09	+1.6	
Ford Motor (F)	23.85	-.59	+14.8		United Rentals (URI)	322.21	-3.77	-3.0	
FuelCell Energy (FCEL)	4.97	-.13	-4.4		UnitedHealth Group (UNH)	465.00	+6.40	-7.4	
Gen Dynamics (GD)	210.61	-1.48	+1.0		Verizon Comm (VZ)	53.87	+.37	+3.7	
Gen Electric (GE)	99.42	-1.98	+5.2		Virtus Invest (VRTS)	287.00	-3.01	-3.4	
Grab Holdings Ltd A (GRAB)	6.60	-.21	-7.4		Voya Financial (VOYA)	71.93	-.61	+8.5	
Hartford Fn Sv (HIG)	71.84	-.22	+4.1		Webster Financial (WBS)	63.74	+.58	+14.1	
Honeywell Intl (HON)	213.46	-2.29	+2.4		Wells Fargo & Co (WFC)	55.35	+.58	+15.4	
Horizon Tech Fin (HRZN)	16.07	+.07	+.9		White Mtns Insur (WTM)	1038.04	+8.98	+2.4	
Infosys Ltd (INFY)	24.77	+.57	-2.1		World Wrestling Ent (WWE)	51.16	+1.14	+3.7	
Intel Corp (INTC)	55.21	+1.77	+7.2		XPO Logistics Inc (XPO)	70.50	-.90	-9.0	
Kaman (KAMN)	43.49	-.10	+.8		Xerox Holdings Corp (XRX)	23.69	-.01	-4.6	
Keycorp (KEY)	26.33	-.02	+13.8		Yamana Gold Inc (AUY)	3.96	+.06	-6.2	
Lincoln Natl Corp (LNC)	72.25	-.85	+5.8		Zynga Inc (ZNGA)	8.44	+2.44	+31.9	
Lucid Group Inc (LCID)	41.72	-.26	+9.6						
MGM Resorts Intl (MGM)	43.62	-.91	-.2						
Magellan Health Inc (MGLN)	94.99						

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Helen Bennett
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OPINION

COURANT.COM/OPINION



The state Department of Education recently reminded school districts that closing schools due to COVID-19 outbreaks “is generally not permitted” under state law, though “very limited exceptions” will be allowed. **JESSICA HILL/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT**

EDITORIAL

Lamont working to keep kids in school

Connecticut parents are worried. Nearly two full years after the COVID-19 pandemic took hold of this state, the omicron variant is raging, positivity rates hit record levels, hospitals are filling up with patients again, there are not enough test kits to go around and debates are raging over mask-wearing mandates and remote schooling. It's no wonder there is a lot of worry going around. Amid this, Gov. Ned Lamont has said he is “going to do everything I can to keep kids in the classroom safely.” “Nothing compares to a great teacher in a classroom,” the governor said. He's right. And top educators in Connecticut — who work to keep children safe — agree with him. The state Department of Education recently reminded school districts that closing schools due to COVID-19

outbreaks “is generally not permitted” under state law, though “very limited exceptions” will be allowed. Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, state commissioner of education, told the districts in a memo that remote learning would be allowed when students must be in isolation due to a confirmed COVID-19 infection or after close contact with a confirmed case. Students would be allowed to remain at home only “in rare and individualized circumstances” when there are family members with an unusual vulnerability to COVID-19. Remote learning may also be used for special education students “in rare cases.” The point? Educators are trying to keep kids safely in school, with emphasis on the benefit of routines and in-person schooling, especially for younger children. “Every time that's interrupted, that interrupts the educational experience for the

child,” said Patrice McCarthy, deputy director of the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education told a Courant reporter. Further, state officials have pointed out that damage to learning and mental health can accompany long-term distance learning. As positive tests continue to be reported among K-12 students — last Thursday it was 1,021 positive tests among students for the week, even though schools were not in session — there are those who clearly do not agree with educators or Lamont. Tiffany Torok of Meriden, for example, recently started a petition seeking to give parents an option of keeping kids at home for remote classes during the record surge in COVID-19 cases. The petition (bit.ly/3sTUhAP) on Change.org urges Lamont to allow a statewide choice on distance learning. Attracting more than 4,200 signatures in 48

hours, the petition says, “If it's unsafe for towns to have in-person meetings, it's unsafe for our babies to be in classrooms.” But Lamont is sticking to his goal. Amid widespread absences of teachers, bus drivers and students from school this week, the governor said the state is distributing 670,000 at-home rapid tests to schools and child care providers across Connecticut. Fifty thousand tests were earmarked for early child care providers; 620,000 were allocated to public and private K-12 schools. There also are other steps schools can and are taking — rigorous testing, tracing, mask enforcement and distribution, on-site vaccination clinics in some cases, and other safety standards. More also could be done. A coalition of labor unions, for instance, recently asked the state to provide N95 masks, free testing at schools and other safety

measures. “Up to 60% of my members don't have access to [N95] masks, and more than 70% have reported not having access to testing,” said Kate Dias, president of the Connecticut Education Association. She is right that a work space without those protections is not a place for teachers. Like Lamont, officials and educators are clearly aware of the concerns as they work not only to keep kids safe, but also to keep them in school. “We will ramp up our mitigation efforts due to the high transmissibility of omicron. We will once again focus on providing spacing when possible, reinforce the importance of mask wearing, and reiterate our guidance to all that if your child shows any symptoms of illness, please keep them home,” West Hartford Superintendent of Schools Tom Moore said in a letter to parents.

OP-ED

The new State Pier in New London will create jobs

By Keith R. Brothers

With the Connecticut Port Authority's final State Pier permit recently approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, our state is on the brink of being home to one of the country's premier port facilities for the offshore wind industry. It will serve as a major new jobs hub, bolster the state's economy and help launch a new industry that is imperative for fighting climate change and achieving a sustainable, carbon-free future for Connecticut and beyond. The timing couldn't be better for the redevelopment of State Pier to fully take shape using a Project Labor Agreement, which includes pre-apprenticeship training programs to deliver huge job opportunities to the local New London Building Trades Council. The construction work to transform the pier into a modern, heavy-lift capable facility will create hundreds of prevailing wage, union construction jobs — such as laborers, ironworkers, electricians, operating engineers, carpenters and other trades — that include pension and health benefits. As State Pier hums with construction activity, New London's economy and small businesses will be bolstered by an influx of workers frequenting local establishments. It is estimated that the State Pier proj-

ect will add millions of dollars in value to the New London economy, including indirect spending at local retail and restaurants as well as labor income. Connecticut has great partners in Ørsted and Eversource, who are building a green jobs workforce and helping to develop a regional supply chain to support wind farm development. Once the pier redevelopment project is complete, the companies will lease the modernized State Pier for 10 years and use it as a wind turbine staging and Assembly facility for Connecticut's first offshore wind farm, Revolution Wind. Revolution Wind will also support its two other major projects in development in the Northeast, South Fork Wind and Sunrise Wind, both of which will serve New York. To meet the Biden administration's decarbonization goals, South Fork Wind is slated to start construction early next year, and Revolution Wind and Sunrise Wind are on track to receive federal approval over the next two years. Revolution Wind will deliver 304 megawatts of clean energy to Connecticut and 400 megawatts to Rhode Island. All three projects will collectively provide enough clean energy to power more than one million homes in the Northeast. Equally advantageous are the continuing, well-paying positions created throughout the



In this file photo, a lift boat, which serves as a work platform, assembles a wind turbine off Block Island, R.I. **MICHAEL DWYER/AP**

construction of the wind farms. Ørsted and Eversource will bring one of the largest, most advanced installation vessels to State Pier to support the construction of its offshore wind farms. In doing so, they will help create and sustain dozens of diverse jobs for wind turbine generator pre-assembly operations at State Pier. Additionally, as State Pier becomes a regional epicenter for the offshore wind industry, it

will be an anchor to attract other aspects of the offshore wind supply chain to a region rich with manufacturing and technology, generating even more economic opportunities. One of the more exciting aspects of the project is the increased heavy-lift capacity for the pier. State Pier has been one of Connecticut's most underutilized assets for several generations, and with this project comes an oppor-

tunity to breathe new life into one of southeastern Connecticut's prime maritime assets. State Pier's infrastructure improvements and enhanced footprint will make it a more marketable facility for our state, which will help Connecticut attract new businesses and a broader range of cargo types than it previously handled. With this investment in a modernized State Pier, new economic opportunities will be open to our state, bringing in more state revenue from various cargo sources after offshore wind or while there are lulls in offshore wind project construction. And we have a private partner in Ørsted and Eversource to help us make this happen with a nearly \$100 million private investment in State Pier, including lease payments. New London, too, stands to benefit directly from a redeveloped State Pier and the offshore wind industry. The city will realize more than \$1 million in new annual revenue from payments from the different project partners. But equally important, it will be a hub for this vital, new, national industry that creates jobs and spurs economic development while fighting climate change and creating a better planet for future generations. *Keith R. Brothers is president of the Connecticut State Building Trades Council*



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check Bsmnt/Attic. 860-817-4350

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& White Call Hartford PD 860-757-
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209-6629

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HONDA ACCORD 2014 - \$17,999
35,000 miles. Garaged.1 owner. No
acc. New tires. 860-742-8363

PUBLIC NOTICES

Connecticut

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF AVON

A certified list of 40 Democratic party-
endorsed candidates for the Town of Avon for
election as Members of the Town Committee
At-Large is on file in my office at 60 West
Main Street, Avon, Connecticut and copies
are available for public distribution. The
number of Town Committee Members to be
elected, under party rules, is 40.

A Primary will be held March 1, 2022, if 10
candidates (which is at least 25% of the
number of town committee members to be
elected by such party in the municipality) are
filed in accordance with 9-382 to 9-450, in-
clusive, of the General Statutes, by persons
other than party-endorsed candidates, not
later than 4:00 p.m. of January 26, 2022,
provided the number of such candidates plus
the number of endorsed candidates, exceeds
the number of town committee members to
be elected. (If the number of opposing can-
didates filed is reduced to less than such
25%, no primary will be held.) Petition forms,
instructions and information concerning the
procedure for filing opposing candidacies,
may be obtained from Ann Clark, Democratic
Registrar of Voters, 60 West Main Street,
Avon, Connecticut.

Ann L. Dearstyne
Municipal Clerk of Avon
1/11/22 7124163

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with City of Hartford Municipal
Code Section 29-16, the Hartford Police
Department is in possession of unclaimed
found property for which the owner cannot
be located.
If you believe that some of this property is
yours, phone the HPD Property Room at 860
757-4180 weekdays 7:A.M to 2:30 P.M. Be
prepared to provide a detailed description of
the property, the circumstances of its loss,
and proof of ownership as necessary.
Positive identification is required before prop-
erty will be released. If not claimed, items
may be sold at public auction, destroyed,
donated, or released to a finder.
1/4-3/29/2022 7112251

**Statutory Reference: Conn. Gen.
Statutes §19a-638
Applicant: Connecticut
Children's Medical Center**

Proposal: The Applicant intends to file a
Certificate of Need application with the State
of Connecticut Office of Health Strategy to
increase its licensed bed capacity by twelve
beds to establish a psychiatric/medical
inpatient unit.
Project Address: 282 Washington Street,
Hartford, CT 06106
Capital Expenditure: \$9,672,815
1/10, 1/11, 1/12/2022 7123172

NOTICE OF SALE

SUPERIOR COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF
MIDDLESEX AT MIDDLETOWN DECEMBER
14, 2021. DOCKET NUMBER: CV21-
6031972-S EVERGREEN ASSOCIATES, LLC
v. CHRISTOPHER CERAMI, ADMINISTRATOR
FOR THE ESTATE OF ALAN SCOTT ATWOOD
aka ALAN ATWOOD. Pursuant to an order
of the Court dated December 14, 2021, a
public sale of a 1966 New Moon Mobile
Manufactured Home, identification number
418168, owned by The Estate of Alan Scott
Atwood aka Alan Atwood shall be held at
Site #14, 229 Killingworth Turnpike, Clinton,
Connecticut on January 18, 2022, at 10:00
a.m. Any person, including a lien holder or
the owner of the mobile manufactured home
park, may bid at the sale. THE SALE WILL
EXTINGUISH ALL PREVIOUS OWNERSHIP
AND LIEN RIGHTS. PLAINTIFF BY: MICHAEL
IACURCI, ITS ATTORNEY, 70 WALL STREET,
MADISON, CT 06443, 203-245-2400, JURIS
#419094
12/28, 1/4, 1/11/2022 7107438

NOTICE OF SALE

SUPERIOR COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF
MIDDLESEX AT MIDDLETOWN DECEMBER
14, 2021. DOCKET NUMBER: CV21-
6031392-S EVERGREEN ASSOCIATES, LLC
v. CHRISTOPHER CERAMI, ADMINISTRATOR
FOR THE ESTATE OF KENNETH ANTHONY
MIRANDA. Pursuant to an order of the Court
dated December 14, 2021, a public sale of
a 1969 Holiday Mobile Manufactured Home,
identification number 2960-11659, owned
by The Estate of Kenneth Anthony Miranda
shall be held at Site #82, 229 Killingworth
Turnpike, Clinton, Connecticut on January 18,
2022, at 10:30 a.m. Any person, including a
lien holder or the owner of the mobile manu-
factured home park, may bid at the sale.
THE SALE WILL EXTINGUISH ALL PREVIOUS
OWNERSHIP AND LIEN RIGHTS. PLAINTIFF
BY: MICHAEL IACURCI, ITS ATTORNEY, 70
WALL STREET, MADISON, CT 06443, 203-
245-2400, JURIS #419094
12/28, 1/4, 1/11/2022 7107415

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OBITUARIES BY TOWN

Avon
W. W. Alan
Stephen J. Roberts

Berlin
Florence E. Glenney
Zdzislaw Kajzer

Bristol
Florence T. Bjorklund
Valeria Branchaud
Maurice Dion, Sr.
Ann Marie Dube-Lizotte
Stephen J. Roberts

Burlington
Joseph K. Newman

Canton
Jadwiga A. Moore

Colchester
Catharine W. Miller

East Hartford
Thomas A. Cardini, Sr.
Michael A. Nargi, Jr.

Enfield
Scott T. Bailey
John E. Janosik
Michael J. Murcier

Farmington
W. W. Alan

Hartford
Peter D. Adams
Antonio Manuel Sousa
Coelho
Vincent L. Grant
Konstantinos P. Kyparidis
Priscille B. Sibley

Manchester
Stella McCann
Kimberly R. Ruppert

Middletown
John F. Campbell
Thomas A. Cardini, Sr.
Rosemarie Jacob
Germaine T. Staples

New Britain
George J. Brayne, Jr.
Zdzislaw Kajzer
Bonnie Ziel

Newington
George J. Brayne, Jr.
Barbara P. Ouellette

Old Saybrook
Donald R. Chapman
Catharine W. Miller

Other Towns in CT
Scott T. Bailey
Lewis G. Bradley
Valeria Branchaud
Carol J. Diorio
Priscille B. Sibley

Out of State
Peter D. Adams
Jan C. Anderson
Donald R. Chapman

Plainville
Ann Marie Dube-Lizotte

Rocky Hill
Florence E. Glenney

Simsbury
Jadwiga A. Moore
Barbara P. Ouellette

South Windsor
Konstantinos P. Kyparidis
Rose B. Ostrowski

Southington
Florence T. Bjorklund
Carol J. Diorio

Stafford Springs
Paul L. McDonald

Storrs
Germaine T. Staples

Suffield
Jan C. Anderson

Vernon
Brenda Sullivan

West Hartford
Gary M. Pelletier
Eleanor Zajac

Wethersfield
Catherine T. Kulcsar

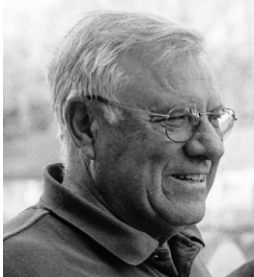
Windsor Locks
Michael J. Murcier

OUT OF STATE
Peter D. Adams
Ashfield, MA
Jan C. Anderson
Longmeadow, MA
Donald R. Chapman
New Hope, PA
Catharine W. Miller
East Haddam, CT
Rose B. Ostrowski
Sturbridge, MA

* Denotes name listing only.
Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES

Chapman, Donald Raymond



Donald R. Chapman, 90, of New Hope, PA, passed away peacefully at home with his family by his side on January 7, 2022, after a long illness.

Don was born on August 2, 1931, to Raymond and Mae Chapman, and was raised in Old Saybrook, CT. He was a proud veteran of the United States Army, enlisting in the 508th Airborne Infantry Regiment in 1951, then serving as Captain in the Connecticut National Guard until 1965.

Don graduated with an engineering degree from the University of Connecticut in May 1958, and he married Barbara Jane Post of Chester, CT, that September. Also that same year, Don joined the Southern New England Telephone Company, where he worked until retirement. Don was highly respected by his peers as a “take charge” individual and a manager that built an “esprit de corps”. He was a pioneer in the cellular phone business, planning and building the cellular network throughout most of Southern New England.

Don built his family with Barbara, starting in Killingworth, and then subsequently in Essex, Old Saybrook, and Niantic, CT. He was a loving and dedicated father, and he welcomed many friends and neighbors into their home. Don and Barbara eventually moved to Pennsylvania to be closer to their beloved grandson, Ethan.

During his life, Don was an active member in local politics and the Episcopal Church, serving his community in a variety of roles. He believed strongly that giving back to the community was a responsibility that we should all uphold.

During his retirement years, he loved playing golf, traveling with Barbara, and spending time with his family.

Don was predeceased by his parents and brother, Ted. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Barbara; his brother, Robert Chapman, of Jupiter, FL; his daughter Amy Mathers, and her husband, Jeffrey, of Furlong, PA; his son Paul Chapman, and his partner, Chris Cary, of Charlotte, NC; his grandson Ethan Mathers; and many nieces and nephews.

Relatives and friends are invited to gather at 8:45am on Friday January 14, 2022 at the Administration Building of the Washington Crossing National Cemetery, 830 Highland Rd. Newtown. PA. 18940. Committal Prayers will begin at 9:00am.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in Don’s name to Disabled American Veterans, P.O. Box 14301, Cincinnati, OH 45250-0301. Condolences may be made, and pictures may be shared, at www.Fluehr.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Kulcsar, Catherine T.(Dockery)



Catherine Theresa (Dockery) Kulcsar, 83, beloved wife, mother, and grandmother, passed away on January 7, 2022. Catherine was born on April 9, 1938, in County Kildare, Ireland. She was the daughter of Owen and Winifred (Hester) Dockery. Catherine was predeceased by her loving husband of 52 years, Steve Kulcsar. She is survived by her daughter, Marie Gaffney and her husband Raymond Minor of Newington, her son Stephen Kulcsar of Granby, and her precious granddaughter Erin. In addition to her parents and husband, Catherine was predeceased by her sister Breeda Browne and her brothers Aidan, Brendan, Ciaran, Colm, Eamon, and Peadar Dockery. As per her request, there will be no calling hours. A private mass of Christian burial will be held on Thursday, January 13, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at Corpus Christi Church in Wethersfield. The Farley-Sullivan Funeral Home has care of the arrangements. To extend condolences, please visit Farleysullivan.com. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the charity of one’s choice.

Farley-Sullivan
Funeral Home

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

OBITUARIES

Campbell, John F.



John F. Campbell, 92, of Middletown, passed away peacefully in his home of 54 years on January 8. Born in Jamaica, Queens, son of the late Patrick and Mary (Barrett), he was raised in New York. He was predeceased by Ann, his loving wife of 54 years. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1951 and served during the Korean War until his honorable discharge in 1957. John then went back to work for NAPA, where he worked until his retirement in 1992, and where he forged life-long friendships. He moved his family to Middletown, CT in 1967, and was very involved in the lives of his four children, including volunteering as a little league coach. John was known for his easy-going demeanor and his good humor. He was a wonderful man, a great father, and was immensely loved and cherished by his family and everyone he met. During his retirement years, John enjoyed life by traveling and spending time with his children and his beloved grandchildren. A devout Catholic throughout his life, John was a parishioner of St. Pius X in Middletown for many years. John leaves four children, Carol Daly and her husband Jim of Palm Bay, FL, John and his wife Heidi of Madison, Tom and his wife Lynn of Farmington, and Joe of Lebanon; 8 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. The funeral will be held on Wednesday, January 12th at 8:30 a.m. from the Coughlin-Lastrina Funeral Home, 491 High St, Middletown, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial in St. Pius X Church at 10 a.m. Burial with full military honors will be in the State Veterans Cemetery, Middletown. Friends may call at the funeral home on Wednesday, January 12th from 8:30-9:30 a.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in John’s name may be made to St. Pius X Parish, 310 Westfield Street, Middletown, CT 06457.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Glenney, Florence E.



Ms. Florence Elizabeth Glenney (Betty), 66, of Berlin, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Everett and Naomi (Mackenzie) Glenney, went home to be with her Lord on Friday, January 7, 2022. She was born January 23, 1955 and was a graduate of Penny High School in East Hartford. She went on to study at Lesley University in Cambridge, MA. She graduated with a degree in special education and became a teacher in Windsor. Betty also worked for a group home for many years, caring for the residents with compassion and love.

Betty was born again on July 20, 1969 when she trusted Christ for forgiveness of sins and eternal salvation. She was a faithful member of the Newington Gospel Hall Assembly (formerly the Charter Oak Gospel Hall) and demonstrated a vibrant faith and love for her Lord throughout her life.

She is survived by her brother Irvin Glenney and sister, Suzanne (Glenney) Chapman and their families. She was predeceased by her sister, Barbara (Glenney) Vintinner. Betty spoke often of her many nieces, nephews, and great-nieces and nephews who she loved very much. She was affectionately known to all of her Gospel Hall family as Bett and to the many ‘nieces’ and ‘nephews’ she adopted there as Auntie Betty. She was a fantastic cook who loved to have people in her home. She was a prayer warrior, encourager, and giver whose humor and tender heart will be greatly missed until we meet again.

A funeral service will be held on Thursday (January 13, 2022) at 11 AM at the Rose Hill Funeral Home, 580 Elm St. Rocky Hill. Family and friends are invited to call from 10 to 11 AM at the funeral home just prior to the service. Please share online expressions of sympathy, memories, or photo tributes at www.rosehillfuneral-homes.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

McDonald, Paul L.



Paul L. McDonald, 82, of Stafford Springs, CT, husband of the late Elaine (Kozlowski) McDonald, passed away on Friday, January 7, 2022. He was born in Southbridge, MA, son of the late Louis McDonald and Helen (Labelle) McKissick. Paul served our country in the United States Marine Corps, and retired from Otis Elevator as an installer. He was a member of the IUEC Local #91, Strazza, Tonoli-Emhoff American Legion Post No. 26, and the Maple Grove Club in Vernon. Paul is survived by his daughter, Roxann Dubicki and her husband Steven; two granddaughters, Reegan and Makayla; three sisters, Judy Hetu and her husband Fritz, Jean Spinner, and Jackie Anger; and several nieces, nephews, and cousins. Paul will be most remembered for being generous, outgoing and always ready with a few great stories to bring to the party. He was so very proud of his 30+ years working at Otis Elevator. From moving up the ranks to Job Forman, to all the great places and buildings he got to work in. You for sure had to be prepared for an Elevator lesson whenever jumping in one with Paul. His funeral service with Military Honors will be held on Saturday, January 15, 2022 at 1:30 P.M. at Intervigne Funeral Home, Inc., 51 East Main St., Stafford Springs, CT. Burial will be held privately. Calling hours are on Friday, January 14, 2022 from 5-7 P.M. at the funeral home. Memorial donations may be made to Visiting Nurse and Health Services of Connecticut, 8 Keynote Dr., Vernon, CT 06066. To leave a condolence online for the family, please visit: www.introvignefuneralhome.com

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obituary section on courant.com
to share memories of loved ones.

Cardini, Sr., Thomas A.



Thomas A. Cardini, Sr., 94, of East Hartford, formerly of Middletown, died Saturday, January 1, 2022 at his home with family at his side. Tom was born in Brockton, MA, son of the late George and Sally (Bass) Cardini. He is survived by his children Thomas, Jr. and wife Diane Cardini of Venice, Florida, SallyAnn Stroberg and husband Edward of Killingworth, stepdaughters Cheryl Faught of East Hampton and Darlene Forline of Wethersfield; four grandchildren, Paul and Kim Chaplinsky of Southington, Anthony and Wendy Chaplinsky of East Haddam, Todd Cardini of Rocky Hill, Heather and Scott Morris of Shrewsbury, Ma.; nine great-grandchildren, four great-great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his first wife Roma Cardini and his second wife Patricia Cardini and his two brothers Joseph and Robert Cardini. He was a Loyal Red Sox fan for many years always watching the games on TV. Tom was very talented and creative doing his wood working projects during his spare time and loved to be in the kitchen cooking great Italian meals, baking breads and delicious desserts for his family and friends. Prior to his retirement Tom was employed as a baker for the State of Connecticut. He was a proud veteran serving in the U.S. Navy on the U.S.S. Briareus during WWII. Funeral services will be at Biega’s Funeral Home, at 3 Silver St., Middletown, CT. on Friday, January 14th. Services will begin at 9:00 a.m. followed by graveside at the Connecticut State Veterans Cemetery. Friends may call at Biega Funeral Home on Friday from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. To share memories or express condolences online please visit www.biegafuneralhome.com.

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Dion, Maurice, Sr.



Maurice R. Dion, Sr., 82, of Bristol passed away on Friday January 7, 2022. He was born on April 3, 1939, in Canada the son of the late Camille and Rose (Michaud) Dion from Notre Dame du Lac, Quebec, Canada. Maurice was a carpenter by trade and took great pride and enjoyment in restoring and maintaining Victorian mansions. He is survived by his loving wife Lise Dion of Bristol; his children Lynn Fries of East Hampton, CT, Johanne L’Italien and her husband Denis of Bristol, Norman Dion and his wife Theresa of Bristol; his grandchildren Heather, Jodi, Tara (Jordan), Sara (Joshua), Kayla, Justin (Iyanna), and Joshua; his great-grandson’s Robert and Allen; two brothers and seven sisters residing in Canada and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his son Robert Dion and one brother Edouard Dion. A memorial service is planned for the spring and will be announced at a later date. To leave an online message of condolence, share a memory or a photo, please visit Maurice’s tribute page at www.OBrien-FuneralHome.com



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McCann, Stella (Lang)



Stella (Lang) McCann, 88, of Manchester, Connecticut formally South Windsor, passed away peacefully on Friday, January 7 at Manchester Memorial Hospital with her loving husband and children by her side. She was born January 22, 1933 to the late Rose (Lang) Stubits in Northampton, Pennsylvania. Stella was the loving wife and best friend of John (Jack) McCann for over 66 years. She loved tennis, bowling, cooking, and the beach, but most of all being with her family.

Stella was predeceased by her son Kevin and is survived by Jack, and her 3 children, Jim (Sharyn) McCann of Glastonbury CT, Pete (Julie) McCann of Tega Cay, SC, and Catherine (David) Langworthy of Manchester CT, with whom she and her husband resided.

She leaves 7 Grandchildren, Caitlyn McCann, Kara (Tim) Haladyna, Amy (Matt) Spencer, Joe McCann, Matt (Kate) McCann, Jessica (James) Dineen, Jamie (Ryan) Kilpatrick.

She also leaves 12 Great-Grandchildren, Kaia, Bennett, Braden, Beau, Isaac, Evan, Jaxson, Mason, Rory, Callie, Madelyn and Jackson.

In addition, she leaves her siblings Donna (Richard) Bealer, Joseph Stubits, Fred Stubits, Michael (Sandy) Stubits and Sister-in-Law Kathy (Don) Hilbert, and a special Aunt Anna (Richard) Zareczky all of Pennsylvania, and several nieces and nephews.

The public is invited to gather at Holmes-Watkins Funeral Home, 400 Main Street in Manchester at 10 am on Friday, 01/14/22 before processing to a funeral Mass at 11 am at St. Bridgets Church in Manchester with burial to follow.

To leave a message of condolence please visit Holmeswatkins.com

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Kyparidis, Konstantinos P.



Konstantinos P. Kyparidis, 90, of South Windsor, beloved husband of Panagiota (Pippas) Kyparidis passed away Saturday, January 8, 2022 at Middlesex Hospital. He was born in Anapa, Russia, son of the late Panagiotis and Eleni (Kotsailidou) Kyparidis, and was raised in Greece before moving to the Hartford area over 50 years ago. Kosta worked for the American Linen Co. for many years before retiring, and was a long time member of St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Hartford.

Besides his wife Panagiota, he is survived by his 2 daughters; Elena Kyparidis and her husband Terry Tinnirella of Wethersfield, and Sophie Kapsanis and her husband Tony of Westfield, MA, his 5 grandchildren; Taso, Tula, Chrysanthi, Niko, and Kosta, and his great granddaughter, Talia. Kosta was also predeceased by his brother Vasilios Kyparidis, and his sister Maria Karahalios.

A funeral service will be held Wednesday, January 12, 2022, 11:00 AM at St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral, 433 Fairfield Ave Hartford, CT 06114 with the Rev. Dr. George Zugravu officiating. Burial will follow in Cedar Hill Cemetery, Hartford. Visiting hours will be held Wednesday prior to the service, from 10 to 11AM at George Greek Orthodox Cathedral. Memorial contributions may be made to St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral. To share a memory with the family, please visit www.dillonbaxter.com



Dillon-Baxter
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OBITUARIES

Bjorklund, Florence T.



Florence Theresa Bjorklund, 85, of Southington, passed away on January 4, 2022 at Midstate Hospital. She was predeceased by her husband Richard A. Bjorklund. Florence was born August 13, 1936 in New Britain, a daughter of the late Stanley and Frances (Cebula) Dombkowski. She was employed by New England Clock Co. many years as a Clock Finisher. Florence loved to play Bingo, she had Bowling game of 200, she loved going to her cottage at Lake Pocotopaug in East Hampton. She loved her dogs Holly and Toto, she loved sitting outside enjoying Nature. She was an Amazing Cook and Baker. She was proud of her Polish Heritage and her Polish Cooking. Florence will be dearly missed by her family; daughter Gail Bjorklund with whom she lived with in Southington, sons Eric Bjorklund of Southington, Scott Bjorklund and his wife Marilyn of Terryville, and Richard Bjorklund of Bristol, 3 grandchildren; Laura, Lindsey and Ryan Bjorklund. She loved her grandchildren dearly. She is also survived by her sister Irene Horanzy, several nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by sisters Helen Kancewicz and Mary Dombkowski, brothers Stanley and Walter Dombkowski & Joseph Plaza. Calling hours will be held Thursday, January 13, 2022 from 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM. A funeral service will follow immediately at 10:30 AM, all to take place at DellaVecchia Funeral Home, 211 N. Main St. Southington. Burial will conclude services in St. Thomas Cemetery. To leave an online condolence, please visit www.dellaVecchiasouthington.com
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Staples, Germaine T (Gillespie)



Germaine T. Staples of Mansfield, CT went to eternal rest on Tuesday, January 4, 2022, at Middlesex Hospital following a brief illness. She was predeceased by her husband of 63 years, Richard A. Staples. She was born on September 8, 1933 in Fort Fairfield Maine the daughter of the late Herbert and Theresa (Dionne) Gillespie. Germaine was a graduate of Fort Fairfield High School. She later obtained certification as a Dental Assistant through Windham Regional Technical School while raising 5 children. She retired from UCONN after 25 years of service working in Student Activities at the Student Union. Her capacity to connect with children and young adults brought her great joy. She was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She is survived by her five children and their spouses: Gayle (Thomas) Pedrotty; Jill (Perry) Phillips; Lorrie (Barry-deceased) Hansen; Karen Staples and Richard Jr. (Deena) Staples; nine grandchildren, Kyle, Lauren, Eric, Elizabeth, Barry, Gregory, Holly, Ericka, Jenna and three great grandchildren, which she considered her greatest legacy. Germaine was predeceased by six siblings Wilfred, Ralph, Katherine, Martina, Sr. Mary Adeline Gillespie, CND, and Helen (Gillespie) Bubar. She is survived by four siblings a brother Peter Gillespie and sisters, Jeanne Byrne, Marjorie Murray, and Ann Santinelli.

A Mass will be held Thursday January 13, 2022 at 11:00 AM at St. Mary's Church, 1600 Main St., Coventry CT. Burial will be private. All Attendees are asked to where masks for the Mass and follow Covid protocols.
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Grant , Vincent Lorinzer



Vincent Lorinzer Grant, 90, of Hartford, beloved and devoted husband of Orinithia (Simpson) Grant, transitioned on Friday, December 17, 2021. Vincent was born on February 26, 1931, in Portland, Jamaica, son of the late Kenneth Grant and Mildred Phipps. Along with his devoted wife Orinithia, he leaves to cherish his memories, two daughters, Marcia Weaver of Hartford, and Angela Grant of Washington, DC; four sons, Gearry Grant of Florida, Dennis Grant and his wife of Bloomfield, Kenneth Grant, and Michael Grant both of Hartford, and one sister, Kathleen Grant of Windsor. The family will receive friends on Saturday, January 15, 2022, from 9am-10am, with a celebration of life to follow at 10am, at the Lodge Community Chapel, 130 Deerfield Road, Windsor. For the complete obituary, and online condolences, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



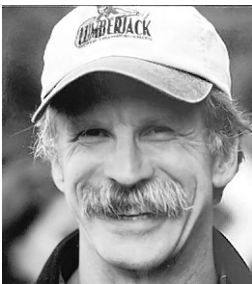
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Murcier, Michael Joseph



Michael Joseph Murcier, of Enfield, entered into eternal life following his 80th birthday on Friday, January 7, 2022. He was born on January 1, 1942 in Los Angeles, CA, son of the late Harold and Adeline (Lawrence) Pelchat. Michael had resided in Enfield for the past 21 years and in Windsor Locks prior to that. He served his country proudly with the U.S. Army. Prior to retiring in 2000, Michael was an owner/operator for an air freight business “Bax Global” for 35 years. Michael was a man of strong faith and served the Lord throughout his life. Michael frequently spoke of Father Driscoll and his influence while growing up in Baltimore. He grew up with his future bride, Bertha, and shared over 60 years of marriage together. His love for Bertha, three children and their families, friends and neighbors, beloved pets were a tremendous source of joy. Michael was a people person who lit up every room with his quick wit and unfiltered humor. Among his many virtues, Michael had a giving, generous, and loving character that touched the hearts of countless people over his lifetime. He was a gifted artist painting beautiful landscapes gracing the walls of many homes. He loved nature – fishing, boating on Crescent Lake, and tending to his yard. Michael is survived by his loving wife Bertha Murcier, his children Scott Murcier of Selma, NC, Terry (Murcier) and James Bedard of South Glastonbury, Mark Murcier (Naomi Dix) of Bloomfield, his beloved grandchildren; Matthew, Michelle, & Steven Bedard, Jordyn Murcier, Meagan Murcier, Nicole Murcier, Amanda Murcier, Kayla Murcier, Dylan and Connor Boynton. Funeral services for Michael will be private. The family has requested in lieu of flowers that memorial donations be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Pl Memphis, TN 38105-9959. Browne Memorial Chapels, Enfield has been entrusted with arrangements. To leave an online condolence message for the family visit: www.brownememorialchapels.com.
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Adams, Peter D.



Peter Demarest Adams, 77, died peacefully at home in Ashfield MA from Parkinson’s disease on December 24, 2021. He was born in New York City to Demarest Adams and Elizabeth van Bibber Adams on April 7, 1944. Peter’s father died suddenly when Peter was just shy of six years old, his mother remarried, and he and his mother and sisters moved to Hartford CT, where he became one of seven children. Peter spent his high school years at The Hotchkiss School in Lakeville CT, went on to Brown University, graduating with a B.A. in 1967 and then returned to Hotchkiss where he soon became Director of Admissions and Financial Aid, a position he held until 1980 when he left Hotchkiss for graduate school. Motivated to help teenagers and their parents navigate both adolescence and education, Peter pursued his M. Ed. from Harvard University and opened his Educational Counseling practice in 1981, work he continued until he retired in 2011. Always one to think resourcefully and thoughtfully, Peter helped hundreds of students find ways not only to enhance their education, but also to broaden their dreams for a future they might not have considered possible. Peter particularly enjoyed working with students for whom education was a challenge and not always a linear track, teenagers who felt they didn’t fit anywhere. Creative in making a match of the most appropriate schools for a wide range of students, Peter co-founded I-Way, a consulting firm in Germany, which helped European students experience American independent schools and colleges. Peter had a unique, compassionate understanding of adolescents’ diverse learning styles and a kind calmness that built trust and confidence in the families he came to know. Every person Peter met was someone he wanted to listen to, to learn about, and to help thrive. During his career Peter sat on the boards of The Ben Bronz Academy in West Hartford CT, The Cobb School in Simsbury CT, ASSIST Inc. in Suffield CT; and A Better Chance in New York, NY. Peter was a genuine altruist, intuitive, curious, insightful, gracious, kind, and positive. Just as Peter never met a person he didn’t want to help, he never found a problem around the house he didn’t want to make right. He sought the outdoors, whether in a canoe or on a beach or ski slope, in the garden or on a dirt road, or just reading the paper in the shade on a summer afternoon. Most of all, Peter loved his family, and his bright blue eyes sparkled when he was with them. The only thing that ever confined Peter was Parkinson’s disease, a cruel diagnosis that robbed his body and his mind of the physical activity and the intellectual mobility he had always prized. Even then, he continued to be the kind, thoughtful man he always was; he never once complained. Peter is survived by his wife Nancy Henderson, his daughters Kit Bayer and Beatrice Adams, his sons Jack Henderson-Adams and Alexander Adams, sisters Sally Vaun, Judy Lee and Elizabeth Adams, and brothers Tim Lee and Spencer Lee. His mother-in-law Patricia Henderson, brother-in-law Jack Henderson, sister-in-law Marnie Henderson, and son-in-law Sean Bayer also survive Peter. A memorial service will be held in the Chapel at The Hotchkiss School, Lakeville CT at 2 pm on June 19, 2022, Fathers’ Day. Donations in Peter’s memory could be made to The Hilltown Churches Food Pantry, PO Box 161, Ashfield MA 01330.
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Pellettier, Gary M.

Gary M. Pellettier, 61, of West Hartford passed away Saturday, January 8, 2022 at St. Francis Hospital & Medical Center. He was born in Hartford, son of the late Laurence D. and Christine (Sylvester) Pellettier, and had lived in West Hartford for many years. Gary was the owner of B and P Reality, LLP of West Hartford. Gary was an avid baseball and football fan. He attended 5 New England Patriots Super Bowl games with his brother Jeff and also attended some world series baseball games. Gary is survived by his significant other Wanda Kupisz of East Hartford, his brother Laurence “Jeff” Pellettier of West Hartford, his aunt Joanne Matos Ventura of New Britain and many cousins. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Friday, January 14, 2022, 10:00 AM at the Church of St. Timothy, 1116 N. Main St. West Hartford, CT 06117. Burial will follow in Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield. Visiting hours will be held Thursday, January 13, 2022, 5 to 8 PM at the Dillon Baxter Funeral Home, 12276 Berlin Tpke. Wethersfield, CT 06109. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Box 7023 Merrifield, VA 22116-7023. To share a memory with the family, please visit www.dilonbaxter.com



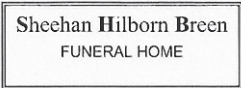
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Coelho, Antonio Manuel Sousa



António Manuel Sousa Coelho, 77 of Hartford, beloved husband of 49 years to Maria Eduarda Coelho, passed Saturday, January 8, 2022 with his children and wife by his side. Born in Santa Maria, Azores, Portugal he was the son of the late Germano Coelho Bairos and Justina Rego Bairos. He came to the U.S. in 1972 and retired from Vulcan Radiators. He was a member of Our Lady of Fatima Church and of the Holy Ghost Society. Those that knew him from his youth, knew him as “o Sacristão” for the many years he served as an altar-server in Vila do Porto, his hometown, and was known by everyone for his loud infectious laugh. Besides his wife, António is survived by his children, Terezinha Jesus (Gilbert) and Bobby Coelho; and his grand-daughter, Marissa, the shining star of his life; a brother Gil Bairos (Joana) of Santa Maria; of Ontario, Canada, Germano Bairos (Inês); the late João Bairos (Mariazinha); Terezinha Melo (the late Gil); José Bairos (Zenália); and many cherished nieces, nephews and cousins. Visitation will be Thursday, January 13, 2022 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the Sheehan-Hilborn-Breen Funeral Home, 1084 New Britain Avenue, West Hartford, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at Our Lady of Fatima Church, 50 Kane Street, Hartford at 11:00 am. Entombment will follow at Holy Cross Cemetery, 1318 Hebron Avenue, Glastonbury. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Antonio’s name to Our Lady of Fatima Church or to the American Lung Association (<https://www.lung.org>). Online condolences may be made at www.SheehanHilbornBreen.com



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Anderson, Jan C.



Jan Cameron Babson Anderson, 74, of Longmeadow, MA, beloved wife of John D. DeWeese passed away at home with John by her side on December 21, 2021. Born January 10, 1947 in Columbus, OH she was the daughter of the late John R. and Jane (Hebditch) Babson. She is survived by her husband John, her four sons, David Anderson of Manchester, Tyler Anderson and his partner, Jamie Welsh of Hayden, CO, John Anderson of Cambridge, MA, William Anderson of Suffield, CT, a daughter-in-law, Katharine Ann Buck of South Windsor, CT, a brother, John R. Babson, Jr and his wife Rin of Pittsburgh, PA, and two grandchildren, William and Allison Anderson. She will be missed by John’s family: his sons, John W. and Thomas DeWeese, Thomas’ wife, Sue DeWeese, and their two children, Morgan and Matthew.

Jan was raised in Greenwich, CT and graduated from Greenwich Academy. She went on to obtain her Bachelor’s degree in mathematics at Skidmore College. She remained an avid student, obtaining master’s degrees in business and mathematics as she moved about the country and opportunities arose.

She married David Anderson on October 8, 1977, and that union produced her four sons. She ultimately separated and divorced, but remained a supportive friend to David. Her life was marked more than usually with ups and downs but throughout them she remained productive and creative. She was a devoted mother to her four sons striving in both good and difficult times to provide both love, and spiritual and material support.

She was a master of journaling and produced many beautiful albums documenting all phases of her and her family’s life as well as the lives of friends and clients. She studied painting and became an accomplished artist in oils. Throughout her life she was a beacon of action, ideas, and optimism.

She married John after a 2-year courtship on April 23, 2017. The couple were gifted with nearly 5 years of adventure and travel, but even more by quiet joy in each other’s presence and love.

Her death followed a long journey with cancer during which she made the most of every opportunity and lived life to its fullest. Her perseverance in the face of progressive illness and disability was an inspiration to all who knew her.

A memorial service, Covid permitting, will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, March 12, 2022 at Nicholson & Carmon Funeral Home, 443 East St. N. (Rt. 159), Suffield. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to: Shriner’s Hospital for Children, 516 Carew Street, Springfield, MA 01104. To leave on-line condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com



CARMON
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Nargi, Jr., Michael A.



Michael Angelo Nargi, Jr, 79, of East Windsor, passed away peacefully on Friday, January 7, 2022 at West Haven VA Hospital. Born in Hartford on July 19, 1942, a son of the late Michael A. Nargi, Sr. and Jennie (Castellani), Nargi, he was raised in Bloomfield and attended Bloomfield Public Schools. He had lived and raised his family in East Hartford until moving to East Windsor in 2002. Michael worked at their family business, Michael’s Bakery on Main Street in East Hartford for years until opening Day Hill Deli in Windsor with his daughter 27 years ago where he worked until his final days. He served in the US Navy during the Vietnam War and Cuba Missile Crisis for six years, serving on the U.S.S Intrepid. He loved riding his Harley Motorcycle, swimming, waterskiing, and flying his plane. He is famous for his Cinnamon “Mikes Bites” and “Giant Sized Cookies”. Mike was dearly loved and his sarcasm will be missed. He is survived by his beloved wife of 58 years, Eileen (Nelligan) Nargi. He leaves behind a son, Michael Nargi and his wife Kerri (Picard) Nargi of Southwick, Massachusetts; and a daughter, Kim Arcata and Gary Connolly of Wethersfield. He also leaves behind his four grandchildren, Alexandra (her “poppy”), Mario, Nicholas, and Jenna Arcata and his great grandchild Sofia Arcata; his sister, Jacqueline Lagoditz and her late husband Michael of Feeding Hills, MA; three brothers, James L. Nargi, Sr. and his wife Loretta of Bloomfield, William T. Nargi of East Hartford, Leo G. Nargi and his wife Robin of Southwick, MA; his niece Jacqueline Dion and her husband, James; two nephews, James Nargi, Jr. and Christopher Nargi; three great nieces, three great nephews, a great, great niece, and a great, great nephew. Besides his beloved parents, he was predeceased by his youngest brother, David P. Nargi. Funeral service celebrating Michael’s life will be Thursday (January 13, 2022) at 1 pm at the D’Esopo East Hartford Memorial Chapel, 30 Carter Street, East Hartford. Burial with military honors will follow at Mount Saint Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield. Relatives and friends may call at the funeral home chapel on Thursday (January 13th) from 11 am to 1 pm. In memory of Mike’s love of animals, especially dogs, the family has requested that in lieu of flowers memorial contributions be made to the Connecticut Humane Society, 701 Russell Road, Newington, CT 06111 or by visiting www.cthumane.org. For online condolences to the family, please visit www.desopoe.com.



D’Esopo
Funeral Chapel

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OBITUARIES

Kajzer, Zdzislaw



Zdzislaw Kajzer, 47, of Kensington, passed away unexpectedly on January 8, 2022. He was the beloved husband of Alina (Lipka) Kajzer. Zdzislaw was born in Przasnysz, Poland on March 27, 1974, son of Marianna (Prusaczyk) Kajzer and the late Stanislaw Kajzer. Besides his wife Alina, he is survived by his sons Wojciech and Adam Kajzer; daughter Emily Kajzer; brother Ryszard and Monika Kajzer and family of Poland; sisters Krystyna and Marian Domzalski and family, and Alina and Wieslaw Rodowicz and family, all of Poland. He is also survived by his brothers-in-law "Szwagry" Ryszard, Krzysztof, Edward, and their families; his sisters-in-law Zofia, Maria, Urszula, and their families; the Skowron family; the Orzol families; and many other family and friends in the U.S. and Poland. Zdzislaw moved from Poland to America in 1997. He worked for Continental for 10 years before becoming a CNC operator for Pratt & Whitney. Zdzislaw was an outdoor enthusiast, especially enjoying his time gardening, hunting, cooking, bee-keeping, and spending time with loved ones. A devote Catholic, he was a member of Sacred Heart Church in New Britain.

Relatives and friends are invited to call on Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2022, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Burritt Hill, 332 Burritt St., New Britain. His funeral service will begin on Thursday, Jan. 13, at 8:45 am at Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Burritt Hill, 332 Burritt St., New Britain, followed by a Mass of Christian burial at 10 a.m. at Sacred Heart Church. He will be laid to rest in Sacred Heart Cemetery. To share a message of sympathy with his family, please visit us at www.duksa.net.



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Ouellette, Barbara Paris



We smile as we remember a vibrant full life lived with grace by our loving matriarch, Barbara Paris Ouellette (our dear Mumu), who passed peacefully in her sleep on January 2, 2022 at the age of 88 in Portsmouth, RI. Faith, family and friends were Barbara's greatest joy and she leaves behind a treasure trove of memories that we'll

all hold near and dear to our hearts. Barbara was predeceased by her "true love and first and forever dance partner" husband Burton V. Ouellette, her brother F. George Paris and her parents, Jean (Kobus) Paris and Franklin (Benny) Paris, all originally from New Britain. She leaves her legacy behind in her children: Jill Robbin, Jeff Ouellette and wife Teresa, Jerilyn Gagnon and husband Tim; and grandchildren/great grandchildren: Perry Robbin and wife Lindsey Pelton, Carly Martin and husband Kevin and children Kai & Lily, Candice Ouellette and partner Mike Kuntz, Jared Ouellette and partner Jillian McGrath, Hillary & Troy Gagnon. Throughout her life, Barbara lived with heart and soul! She delighted in singing, dancing, enjoying music (especially Big Band Jazz of the 40's), gardening, flower arranging, travel, time at the shore, preparing delicious meals and decorating her home in Newington. Her door was always open for a meal or cup of coffee, wonderful conversation and plenty of laughs! Passionate about the jobs she held, she was well rounded in career as a medical secretary (for Drs. Mark Robbin and John Cappadona in Simsbury), in the Employee Assistance Department at Aetna, and as a Pharmacy Technician for CVS where she worked late into her golden years. One of her biggest accomplishments was owning and operating The Ouellette Group Home with Burt for 13 years, where together they enriched lives and provided a loving family setting for young adults with multiple disabilities. Barbara embraced opportunities to serve others and be active in her community. She was the first female President of the Junior American Red Cross in the 1940's and a faithful founding parishioner of the Church of the Holy Spirit. A longtime member of Suburban Women's Club of New Britain, President and member of the Rambling Rose Garden Club, a singer in the Sweet Adelines and a civilian representative for ESGR. She tap-danced her way onto stage with Torrington Civic Theatre and worked tirelessly to arrange many reunions for her class of alumni from New Britain High School. Working on committees, planning events, and being reunited with friends brought her so much joy! The lucky ones who had the pleasure of knowing her, will carry a part of her vibrant spirit, always. Moving forward in upholding the legacy of the bright light that she was, please join us on a warmer, sunnier day...Friday, July 15th, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. for a funeral mass at Church of the Holy Spirit, Newington, interment of ashes to follow at West Meadow Cemetery. Following services, the family invites you to share in a memorial celebration/luncheon at The Pond House, Elizabeth Park, Hartford. To share memories or confirm additional details and RSVP please visit the family's memorial page at: <https://everloved.com/life-of/barbara-ouellette/>. Additional information available at www.memorialfuneralhome.com.

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Ostrowski, Rose B.



Rose was a caring wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, aunt and friend. She left this world on January 8, 2022 at age 98. She and Teddy were the center of our home and the foundation of our family. Together they consistently hosted holiday parties, birthday/graduation celebrations, family wedding receptions, and enjoyed every minute of extended family gatherings. She was the central figure in the lives of her family. Although in her later years she was not able to walk in her favorite high heel shoes, she continued to have her hair and nails perfected and always enjoyed a new outfit. Her style, grace and strong yet kind personality was always the envy of her granddaughter. Morgan tries to live up to her example every day in every way. Her favorite activity was playing slot machines at Foxwoods Casino as well as our memorable trip to Las Vegas. If she lost all the money she brought with her, she always said "I don't care because I had fun." Rose is survived by her daughter, Marilyn Reynolds and her husband Glenn, granddaughter, Morgan Reynolds, and two great-grandchildren: Brayden and Natalie. She was predeceased by her husband Theodore. Our family grieves her loss, but we take comfort knowing that Teddy and Rose are together again. It is hard to imagine life without her, but her love lives on in all of us. To view the private funeral mass on January 13th at 10:00, please sign in to the live streaming. The link will be found at www.carmonfuneralhome.com. Remembrances may be made in the form of contributions to The American Diabetes Association.



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Janosik, John E.



It is with profound sorrow we announce that our husband and father, John E. Janosik, 92, returned to the Lord on 1-4-2022. He was born July 16, 1929, in Brier Hill, PA to John and Mildred (Brosovich) Janosik. John married the love of his life, Ruth (Wible) Janosik on December 27, 1951, and recently celebrated 70 years together.

John graduated from California State Teachers College, California, Pa. majoring in math and science. He taught until he was drafted into the army. Prior to his deployment John and Ruth married and he proudly served in the US Army Signal Corps in Mason during the Korean war. Upon honorable discharge, he took a temporary job with W.T. Grant Co which turned out to be his life's work. He was a manager for 21 years there then worked for 25 years for Ames Department Stores as an operations liaison in the home office in Rocky Hill until retirement in 2000. He is predeceased by a grandson, Mark Janosik, and two sisters, Florence Wachinski and Patricia Vallango. He is survived by four sons, John and Carol, Ft. Madison, IA, Mark and Kay, Bell Buckle, TN, Stephen and Jane, Liverpool, N.Y., Paul and Joe Nusbaum of Pelham MA. Two daughters, Carolyn Williams, Columbus, Ohio, Nancy and James Shaver, Rome, NY. Sixteen grandchildren, and thirty three great grandchildren. His greatest joy was vacationing and spending time with all the family. His spare time was mostly spent tending his yard, garden and tinkering. He was a fan of the Red Sox, Patriots, and UCONN women's basketball. John was a kind and patient man who had a deep Catholic faith throughout his life. His love, support and kindness will be greatly missed. He was admired and respected for the faith filled life that he led. All who met him recognized these wonderful qualities about him. All services and burial will be held privately at the convenience of the family. Memorial donations in John's name can be made to their parish, St. Martha Church, 214 Brainard Road, Enfield CT 06082 or their local mass channel <https://www.ortv.org/donate.html>. For online condolences please visit www.Leetestelevens.com

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Miller, Catharine Whitaker (Gates)



Catharine Whitaker Gates Miller of East Haddam, Connecticut passed away peacefully in her sleep on January 5, 2022, at the age of 93. She was born August 20, 1928 in Norwalk, Connecticut, the daughter of the late Marjory Coley Gates and Rev. Edmund Jayne Gates. She graduated from the Cathedral School of St. Mary, Garden City, New York, and received a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island. Catharine was a member of the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Connecticut, the Nathan Hale Memorial Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Huntington Family Association. She was also a member of the Kenilworth Kennel Club of Connecticut, and the Connecticut Yankee Dachshund Club. She got great enjoyment out of breeding, raising and showing miniature dachshunds with one of her dogs earning the title of AKC champion. She was formerly a member of the Junior League of Greater Bridgeport. She was also a literacy volunteer for many years. Catharine is survived by a son, James Miller of Groton CT, and three daughters, Anne Dente of East Haddam CT, Connie Fricker of Bel Air MD and Judith Abare of Strafford NH, seven grandchildren, Andrew and Paul Abare, Richard and Daniel Fricker, Elizabeth Palmer, and Stephen and Sarah Dente, and one great grandchild, Arthur Palmer. She is also survived by one brother, Roger Gates of Clinton NY. She was predeceased by three brothers, Edmund Gates, Jr., Stephen Gates and David Gates, and two sisters, Barbara Pattison and Mary Gates. Burial will be at Willowbrook Cemetery in Westport CT, at the convenience of the family. Catharine was passionate about literacy and dogs. In lieu of flowers please consider donating in her name to an organization of your choosing.

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Jacob, Rosemarie "Rose" (Cantwell)

On Saturday, January 8, 2022, Rosemarie "Rose" (Cantwell) Jacob, loving wife and mother, passed away at age 69. Rose was born on August 16, 1952 in Middletown, CT to Michael and Madeline (Corbett) Cantwell, the second youngest of six children. Graduating from Mercy High School in 1970, she would later hold various jobs such as CNA/home-health aide, pharmacy technician, and most recently receptionist for a dentist office. She loved music (especially Elvis Presley), shopping, cats (especially hers), collectibles, and enjoyed taking trips to Foxwoods and Mohegan Sun. She is survived by her husband Albert Jacob, her sons Joseph Rybczyk, Jr. and Daniel Rybczyk, and her brother and sister in law, Samuel and Carol Jacob. Rose brought much joy and laughter to those who knew her. Her family and friends will forever love and miss her dearly. Funeral services will be held on Thursday January 13, 2022 at 11 a.m. at Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver St. Middletown. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. Visitation will be Thursday from 10 to 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Rose's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, PO Box 1000 Dept. 142, Memphis, TN 38101. To share memories or express condolences online, please visit www.biegafuneralhome.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Moore, Jadwiga Aurora (Ruminski)



Jadwiga Aurora "Heidi" (Ruminski) Moore, 73, of Canton, CT and formally of Manlius, NY, beloved wife of Richard Moore, died Thursday, January 6, 2022 at home surrounded by her loving family. She was born September 11, 1948 in Portland, ME, daughter of the late Philip and Aurora (Hodge) Ruminski and had lived in Canton for 36 years. She was predeceased by her sister Dawn Ruminski and brother Philip Ruminski. She was a graduate of the Saint Joseph College having received her Bachelor's Degree in 2005. Heidi was a member of St. Catherine of Siena Church in West Simsbury. In addition to her loving husband of 53 years, she leaves her children, Kimberly Ann Joerg and her husband Rolf of Canton, Philip Moore and his wife Donna of Suffield, Jennifer DiMaio and her husband Elia of Canton, Esther LaPointe and her husband Christopher of Canton and Patrick Moore of Avon; her siblings, Christina Neumann and her husband Barclay of Meadow Vista, CA, Andrew Ruminski of Dutch Flat, CA and Jennifer Verstraete and her husband Roy of Ringwood, NJ; her grandchildren, Samantha and Mary Joerg of Farmington, Zachary Joerg of Canton, Kyle and Nolan Moore of Suffield, Hayden and Delia DiMaio of Canton and Shane, Olivia and Mia LaPointe of Canton. Heidi cherished spending time with her family. Her children and grandchildren were her greatest joy in life. She will be remembered for her warm smile, generous heart and endless acts of kindness. She spent many years knitting and in that hobby found a way to spread love to others in her handmade gifts. She loved fishing, gardening, hiking, her glass of Chardonnay and traveling especially to her favorite place Stonington, with her husband. She will be missed beyond measure. Funeral Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 AM on January 15, 2022 at St. Catherine of Siena Church, 265 Stratton Brook Road in West Simsbury. Burial will follow at St. Patrick's Cemetery in Burlington. The Vincent Funeral Home of Canton is caring for the arrangements. Please visit Heidi's "Book of Memories" at www.vincentfuneralhome.com for online tributes.

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Zajac, Eleanor (Emerson)



Eleanor Emerson Zajac, 97 of West Hartford, passed away peacefully on January 10, 2022. She was the beloved wife of the late Thomas M. Zajac. Eleanor was born in Putnam, CT on October 29, 1924, to the late Chester and Alice (Gibney) Emerson. She was a proud graduate of Clark University Class of 1946. Eleanor married her high school sweetheart, Tom, in 1947 and moved to CT. She was employed by The Travelers until the birth of her children. After obtaining a M.Ed. from the University of Hartford in 1971 Eleanor returned to the workforce, retiring from her career as a Reading Consultant for the Hartford Public School system in 1994. Eleanor loved to travel and enjoyed the arts. She was a longtime member of the Woman's Committee of the Wadsworth Atheneum, and a Regional Director for the American Association of Museum Volunteers. She was a devoted member and Past President of the Town and County Club. She is survived by her son Thomas E. Zajac, his wife Heidi and their 3 sons Tyler E. Zajac, Pierce M. Zajac and Cooper D. Zajac all of Chicago, IL, and her daughter Suzanne E. Zajac and her son-in-law Clifford A. Birdsey of Middlefield, CT. Family and friends may call on Wednesday, (1/12) from 3- 5 pm at the Molloy Funeral Home 906 Farmington Avenue West Hartford. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Thursday (1/13) at 10:00 am in St Peter Claver Church 47 Pleasant Street West Hartford. Internment will follow in Fairview Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial donation to the Lyman Heritage Preservation Foundation at the Town & County Club, 22 Woodland St, Hartford, CT 06105. The family would like to thank the staff at Brookdale Chalfield for their welcoming and caring community. Online expressions of sympathy may be made at www.molloyfuneralhome.com

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Alan, W. Ware



Alan Walter Ware, 83, of Avon, beloved husband of Joan (Hooper) Ware, passed away Monday, January 3, 2022. He was born in Scarborough, England to the late Sydney and Roselind (Newstead) Ware. After growing up in Scarborough, Alan spent several years in the British Merchant Navy and graduated from the University of Hull. He was employed by General Electric and at Fylingdales, an American early warning system on the Yorkshire Moors, before settling in Farmington with his family in the 1970s. Alan was a man of integrity, optimism and enthusiasm. His strong people management skills led him to Scan-Optics in East Hartford and then to SpectraScan, where he rose to become the CEO. Alan and his family owned a home in Ludlow, VT, where he loved skiing and boating on Lake Rescue. He enjoyed the many British sports cars the family had and especially liked his Jaguars. He was always the life and soul of family celebrations, and nothing gave him more joy than spending time with his grandchildren, Christopher, Catherine, and Jack. Besides his wife, Joan, and grandchildren, he leaves a son, Paul Ware, and his wife, Dawne, of Farmington; a daughter, Caroline Beitman, and her husband, Alan, of Avon; and a sister, Ann Robson, of Scarborough, England. Due to COVID, Alan's immediate family will hold a private service. The Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center of Avon is caring for the arrangements. For condolences, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com In lieu of flowers please donate to a charity of your choice.



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OBITUARIES

Sibley, Priscille B.

Priscille B. Sibley, age 68, passed away Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at her residence. Born November 28, 1953 in Hartford, CT, she was the daughter of the late Walter and Irene Cote Bisailon. Mrs. Sibley attended Catholic Community of Carolina Forest in Myrtle Beach. She retired as an assistant underwriter for Liberty Mutual. Along with her parents, Mrs. Sibley is predeceased by her husband, Stephen Sibley and a sister, Claire Akerley. Surviving are her daughter, Kimberly Sibley of Bloomfield, CT; a son and daughter-in-law, Nicholas and Sara Sibley of Weatogue, CT; one granddaughter, Kinsley Sibley; a brother and sister-in-law, Robert and Barbara Bisailon of South Windsor, CT; a sister and brother-in-law, Irene and Bryan Goodfield of Conway; her god daughter, Tammi Lavoie of Bristol, CT; two brothers-in-law, Jacques Akerley and Scott Sibley; and a sister-in-law, Sue Sibley. Funeral services will be handled by Funk Funeral Home in Bristol, CT. Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. Please sign the online guestbook at www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel is serving the family.

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Sullivan, Brenda

Brenda Sullivan, 63, of Vernon passed away suddenly on Wednesday, December 15, 2021, at home. She was born on June 8, 1958, in Hartford, a daughter of the late Robert and Cecilia Sullivan. She graduated from Manchester High School Class of 1976. After high school she received her Xray-technician certification from St. Francis Hospital. She was employed by Pratt and Whitney for over ten years. Brenda had a love for animals and spent countless hours volunteering for the Protectors of Animals in East Hartford. Brenda is survived by her stepmother, Marjory Sullivan, stepbrother, John Kennedy and his wife Laura, an aunt, Gloria Emerick, and dear friend Nicole Palarczyk. She was predeceased by her brother Robert Sullivan and a stepbrother, David Kennedy. A graveside service will be held in the spring in St. Augustine Cemetery, Glastonbury, CT. In lieu of flowers donations in Brenda's memory may be made to Protectors of Animals, 144 Main St Unit O, East Hartford, CT 06118. For online condolences please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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Ruppert, Kimberly R.



Kimberly R. (Rozanski) Ruppert, 61, beloved wife of Steven Ruppert, of Manchester, passed away on Wednesday, January 5th, 2022, at Manchester Memorial Hospital. She is the daughter of the late Samuel Rozanski and Lorraine (Scott) Rainey. She is survived by her husband Steven, her daughter Marissa Rozanski of Brooklyn, NY, her brother Michael Rozanski and his wife Dreama, her sister Lynn Trombley, and her sister-in-law Susan Ruppert, nephews Bill Rozanski and Justin Trombley, nieces Holly Rozanski and Bethany Trombley, along with several grand nieces and nephews, and cousins. Besides her parents, she was also predeceased by her brother William Rozanski. In lieu of flowers, with Kim's love for animals and passion for helping those in need, memorial contributions can be made to the ASPCA or The Connecticut Food Bank. Services are private and will be held at the convenience of the family. For online condolences, please visit www.tierneyfuneralhome.com.



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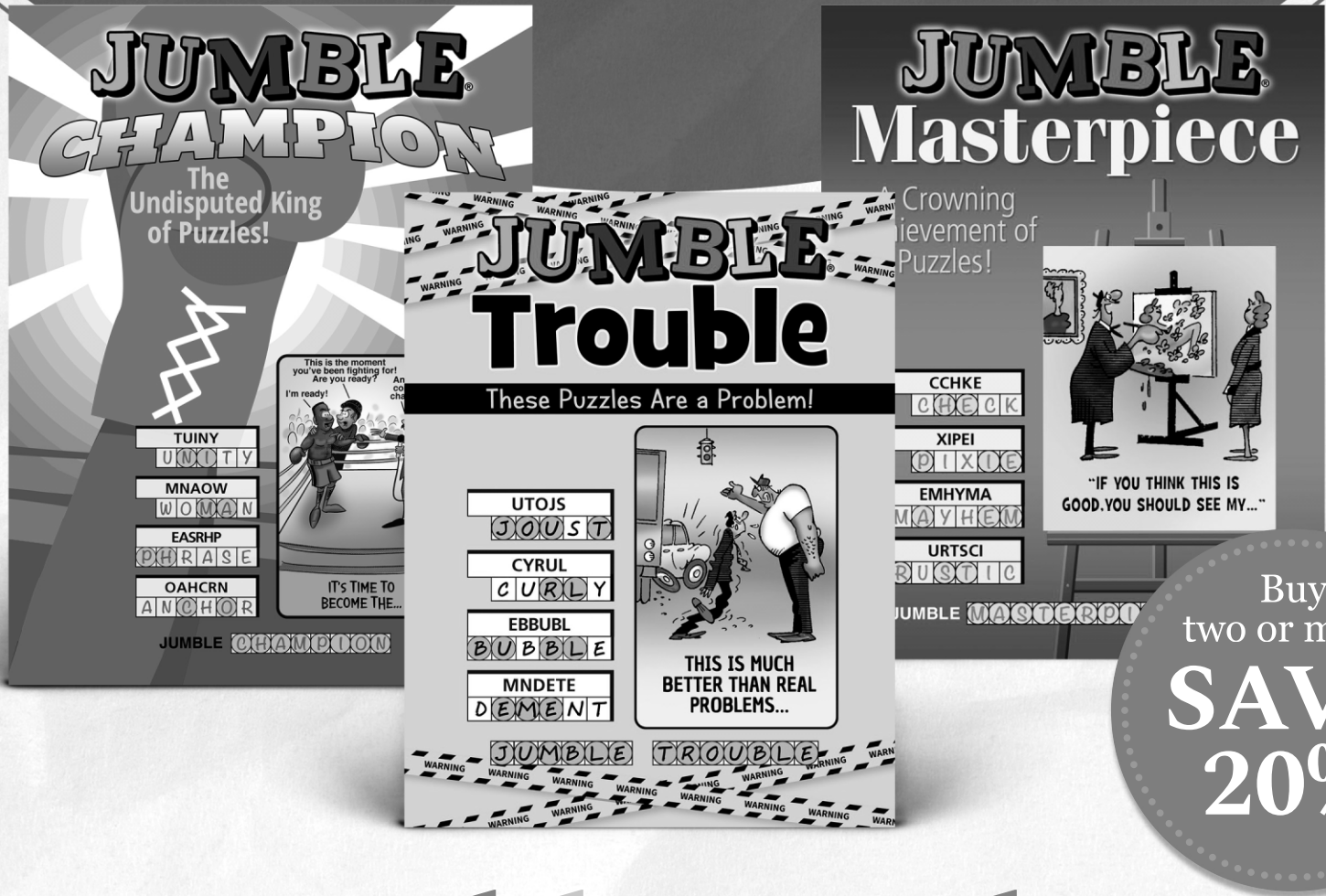
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Ask us for our listing of emblems and how we can help you personalize your loved one's obituary.

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 MASONIC	 ANGEL	 BALLOONS	 BASEBALL	 BASKETBALL	 BUTTERFLY
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CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT

Legislators call for remote learning

With staff shortages due to COVID-19 disrupting classes, advocates are pushing for more options

By **Eliza Fawcett**
and **Alex Putterman**
Hartford Courant

Staff shortages due to COVID-19 have continued to paralyze schools across Connecticut, forcing some districts to cancel classes and sparking calls for a remote learning option from legislators and advocates.

In Waterbury, schools superintendent Dr. Verna Ruffin canceled

classes on Monday due to staff shortages. The city's public school system has now been closed for four school days in a row, due to last week's snowstorm and the Three Kings Day holiday.

On Monday afternoon, the district announced a new schedule for the week including half days for some schools, which officials said would "relieve the district of the current staff shortage and transportation concerns affected by

COVID-19." The half-day model will eliminate lunch periods and provide students with a "grab-and-go" breakfast and lunch, giving high school teachers "the ability to cover additional classrooms."

Other schools have faced similar issues. Last Monday, Ansonia Public Schools announced that schools would be closed for the rest of the week, since a quarter of the staff was out with COVID-19.

The Connecticut Education Association, the state's largest teacher's union, is encouraging its members and other union-

ized school staff to wear black to work on Wednesday to highlight concerns about school safety amid surging COVID-19 cases.

The CEA has called on the state to roll out "more aggressive testing protocols" for students and teachers, provide free access to COVID-19 testing at all schools and distribute N95 masks and at-home test kits to students and school staff, among other measures.

CEA president Kate Dias said Monday she thinks school districts should have the option to switch to remote learning for a few days at a time when a school experiences

a COVID-19 outbreak. Currently, that decision must be made at the state level.

"Even when schools are open, in many cases you have teachers who are teaching not just their classes but also other people's classes in order to keep schools open," Dias said. "There needs to be some flexibility here."

The Black and Puerto Rican Caucus of the state legislature recently wrote to State Department of Education Commissioner Charlene Russell-Tucker request-

Turn to Schools, Page 2

GOP blasts Lamont in video

New digital ad spot criticizes governor's handling of pandemic

By **Daniela Altamari**
Hartford Courant

In a digital ad that marks the first major volley of the 2022 campaign, the state Republican Party is ramping up its criticism of Gov. Ned Lamont's handling of the pandemic.

The 30-second video, which launched on social media and was blasted out in an email on Monday, attacks the Democratic incumbent's coronavirus policies.

"Ned Lamont's response to COVID put Connecticut in danger," the ad asserts.

The spot, produced by TAG Strategies, a Virginia-based digital marketing firm, says Lamont failed to procure COVID-19 test kits over the holiday season, after promising that they were on the way.

It also seeks to tie Lamont to former New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who resigned in disgrace in November after a barrage of sexual harassment allegations were levied against him.

"Clearly COVID is going to be an issue in the 2022 election," said Ben Proto, chairman of the Connecticut Republican Party. "We're going to aggressively (pursue) the case against Gov. Lamont and do our best to convince Connecticut voters that there's a better alternative."

Who that alternative is remains unclear. Ten months before Election Day, no major Republican candidate has officially entered the race, though Bob Stefanowski, the party's 2018 nominee, and Themis Klarides, the former Republican leader in the Connecticut House of Representatives, both said they are considering runs.

Lamont, who announced in November that he is seeking a second term, is proud of his record, said his campaign manager, Dan Morrocco.

"This isn't the first time the Republican Party has lied about Gov. Lamont and it won't be the last," Morrocco said.

Turn to Lamont, Page 2



This barred owl had to be euthanized after getting snared in fishing line hanging from a tree at Old Furnace State Park in Killingly. **COURTESY**

Discarded fishing line a hazard to all

Wildlife experts urge recycling to help save animals

By **Jesse Leavenworth**
Hartford Courant

Carelessly discarded fishing line, a continuing hazard to Connecticut wildlife, snared a barred owl at a state park Saturday, injuring the bird so badly in its desperate struggle to get free that it had to be euthanized.

A hiker in Old Furnace State Park in Killingly discovered the distressed owl hanging from a

tree branch in the early afternoon. Flying low across a pond late Friday or early Saturday, the bird likely had zeroed in on a rodent on the shore when it hit the monofilament line dangling from the young maple, raptor rehabilitator Mary Beth Kaeser said Monday.

"With the damage done to his wing, he had been there awhile," Kaeser, director of Ashford-based Horizon Wings Raptor Rehabilitation and Education, said.

Kaeser took the hiker's call at about 1:30 p.m. and walked with her from the state park's main parking lot to the spot where the bird was hanging about 8 feet up and 12 feet out over the pond. State EnCon police Officers Elise Bouthillier and Brad Waite also responded. Because the pond ice was too thin to walk on, rescuers cut the tree down, lowered it to

Turn to Wildlife, Page 2

Severe weather protocol activated

Shelter, transportation offered as Arctic front brings frigid temps

Hartford Courant

With an Arctic front expected to bring frigid temperatures to Connecticut, Gov. Ned Lamont activated the state's severe cold weather protocol for the first time this winter.

The protocol, which is aimed at protecting vulnerable populations from being exposed to life-threatening cold for long periods of time, triggers coordination between state agencies and local organizations to provide shelter and transportation to shelter for anyone who needs it, using 211.

"While we've had relatively mild weather so far this winter, it looks like we are about to receive our first blast of freezing cold air beginning this evening," Lamont said. "Being outdoors in these arctic conditions for extended periods is not safe, and we must spread the word that shelters and warming centers are open all across Connecticut. If you or someone you know is in need of shelter, call 211 and they will direct you to a nearby location and they can also provide transportation if necessary."

The protocol activates the state's emergency services WebEOC communications network, an internet system that allows local officials and state agencies to update the availability of shelter space so that 211 can place those who call.

Anyone who is in need of shelter or transportation to a shelter, can call 211 at any time for help. Safety measures are in place at Connecticut shelters and warming centers to protect against COVID-19.

Hartford opened its overnight warming center, which can accommodate 50 people, early in December. That shelter is at 110 Washington St., the former location of Adult Education. The shelter is managed by the Salvation Army, which also operates a family shelter at Milner Elementary School at 104 Vine St. Families in need of shelter should contact 211 to be connected.

Turn to Weather, Page 2

As omicron spreads, mask mandates up to local leaders

A look at Connecticut towns requiring face coverings indoors

By **Susan Dunne**
Hartford Courant

As omicron cases in Connecticut surge, whether to require mask wearing has been hotly contested. Gov. Ned Lamont has declined to issue a statewide mandate, instead allowing municipalities to make the choice.

South Windsor, East Hartford, Manchester and Windsor Locks got together last week to encourage Lamont to mandate masks across the state "as we enter a period of escalating transmission,

hospitalization and death," the news release said.

However, as the positivity rate soared to about 20% before the holidays, some towns reinstated mandates on their own.

Many towns recommend or require masks be worn when in municipal buildings like town halls, libraries and schools. Schools and hospitals require them, too. But where do you have to wear a mask to enter the grocery store or a restaurant?

Here's a list:

Bloomfield

A universal mask mandate was enacted in Bloomfield on Jan. 6.

"Any person who fails to wear

a mask or cloth face covering as required herein, other than a person who qualifies for exemption, shall be guilty of a violation and fined \$100," Town Manager Stanley D. Hawthorne said in a release.

Bridgeport

Bridgeport instituted a universal indoor mask mandate in August and never lifted it.

"Our leadership held their ground, properly predicting what we would be going through during the holidays," city spokeswoman Rowena White said on Monday.

Turn to Masks, Page 2



Jeanne Egizio, 59, shops at an ALDI grocery store June 10 in Geneva, Illinois. In Connecticut, many towns are requiring face masks indoors to curb the spread of COVID-19. **ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE**

CONNECTICUT

Hartford man gets prison for stealing police car

By Edmund H. Mahony
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — A Hartford man was sentenced to 16 months in prison Monday in federal court for stealing a law enforcement vehicle packed with ammunition, a bullet-proof vest and other equipment. Jose “J-Money” Nunez-Torrez, 21, was accused of stealing government property and charged with possession with intent to sell the synthetic opioid fentanyl. Law enforcement records presented in court accuse

Nunez-Torres and Dominique Perry of Hartford of stealing a 2016 Honda Accord from a residence in Newton in January 2019. The vehicle was assigned to a federal law enforcement agent, who was not identified, and contained fully loaded firearm magazines for multiple weapons, ammunition, handcuffs and other restraints, a ballistic vest and its component parts, and raid jackets. Nunez-Torres and Perry are accused of taking the car to Bloomfield, selling the tires and rims and placing advertisements for the sale

of the other equipment. Federal prosecutors said the tires and rims were recovered, but not all of the law enforcement gear. Perry, 25, was sentenced to one year. In a gripping legal memo, federal prosecutors described a growing law enforcement problem — frequently committed by juveniles — that is turning Hartford and other cities into dumping grounds for stolen cars. Many in law enforcement say the thefts and police pursuits create a public safety problem and argue for stiff punishment for car thieves, including juveniles

recruited because of the relatively lenient sentences they get. Youth advocates are pushing for laws that resolve cases by, in many instances, keeping youths out of court. Prosecutors said Perry and Nunez-Torres were part of a group “involved in the ongoing business of stealing cars.” While trying to outrun police, Durham said Perry once hit 170 mph. He said the pursuing officer broke off at 120 mph. While free on bond in the federal car theft case, Nunez-Torres was arrested on state charges after law

enforcement officers encountered him sleeping in another stolen car that was parked on an I-91 off-ramp in Hartford. A search of the car revealed two stun guns, a black metal collapsible baton, and distribution quantities of fentanyl and marijuana. He has been detained in state custody since that date. Nunez-Torres later pleaded guilty in state court to risk of injury of a minor related to his intending to impair the morals of a minor under the age of 16, and to larceny offenses related to his earlier theft of two additional vehicles.

Schools

from Page 1

ing that superintendents be given the option to declare remote learning days, which would not need to be made up at the end of the school year. “Superintendents are already losing staff members to the virus and are expressing grave concerns about adequately staffing their school buildings in the coming weeks as this virus surge continues,” read the letter, signed by Rep. Geraldo Reyes Jr., D-Waterbury, and Rep. Bobby Gibson, D-Bloomfield.

Russell-Tucker responded to the legislators’ letter on Thursday, emphasizing that the Department of Education cannot authorize remote learning since the state does not have a remote learning provision for the current school year. She noted, “even in subsequent school years, the legislation only allows for remote learning on the high school level.” “As we have shared with the Caucus, during the pandemic students who learned in-person lost the least ground academically while those who learned in hybrid or remote models showed substantially weaker achievement and growth,” she wrote.

Though Gov. Ned Lamont has given local officials discretion over some pandemic-related decisions, such as the implementation of mask mandates, he has maintained that decisions about remote vs. in-person learning should be made at the state level. “We recognize there continues to be staff and faculty disruption when it comes to COVID-19,” Lamont spokesperson Max Reiss said Monday. “At the same rate, we’re trying to provide things like rapid tests, additional in-person testing capacity and N95 masks to provide additional protection and an understanding of the virus at the school level.”

Reiss emphasized that “there is no substitute for in-person learning” and that the Lamont administration is committed to keeping schools open. Dr. Ulysses Wu, chief epidemiologist at Hartford HealthCare, said Monday the safety of in-person learning during the current COVID-19 surge depends on vaccination, boosters, masking and social distancing. “If these measures are taken, in-classroom transmission is not all that high,” Wu said. “But where a lot of transmission happens is the minute you step outside of that classroom. We’re talking risky social behaviors, whether it may

be in the lounge or in the lunchroom.” In places with relatively low rates of vaccination or booster shots, Wu said, proper masking becomes especially important. “Masking works,” he said. “Wearing a mask as a chin guard doesn’t work, wearing a mask as a helmet does not work, but wearing a mask properly fitted over your nose and mouth not only protects people against you but also protects you.” Eliza Fawcett can be reached at elfawcett@courant.com. Alex Putterman can be reached at aputterman@courant.com.

“Clearly COVID is going to be an issue in the 2022 election. We’re going to aggressively (pursue) the case against Gov. Lamont and do our best to convince Connecticut voters that there’s a better alternative.”

— Ben Proto, chairman of the Connecticut Republican Party

Lamont

from Page 1

“The governor is providing the strong, steady leadership, we need to keep schools open and the economy running - getting 1.8 million tests and 5 million masks into Connecticut in the last week alone,” he said. “Instead of lying about COVID to raise campaign money — the GOP should join Gov. Lamont in working to end this pandemic by promoting vaccines and boosters so we can continue to educate our children, grow our economy, and keep Connecticut moving forward.” Last year, Lamont won praise for his handling of the coronavirus crisis, even from some Republicans. But in recent weeks, the party



Connecticut Republicans are ramping up their criticism of Gov. Ned Lamont, shown delivering the 2020 State of the State address at the state Capitol in Hartford. JESSICA HILL/AP

has ramped up its criticism, slamming him over everything from a digital vaccination card to his decision to seek an extension of executive powers that allow him to manage the pandemic without seeking approval of the legislature. Proto says there are questions regarding an investment by a venture capital firm co-founded by the governor’s wife, Annie Lamont, in Sema4, which received state COVID-19 testing

contracts. (The Sema4 contract posed no conflict of interest under state law on the part of the governor or first lady, according to written guidance provided to the Lamonts by the Office of State Ethics.) Proto said Lamont bears responsibility for another snafu: his failure to procure the 3 million at-home rapid test kits and 6 million N95 masks that he had promised to hand out to residents before New Year’s Day.

“The governor, particularly in the recent past, has not been forthcoming with people of Connecticut,” Proto said. The ad is the first salvo in what will be an aggressive campaign by the GOP, Proto said. “You’re going to see more stuff coming from Connecticut Republicans in the next couple of months,” he said. Proto did not disclose the cost of the digital ad, but said it was not “tremendously expensive.”

Weather

from Page 1

Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin moved to keep both shelters open through Wednesday in light of the dropping temperatures. “With temperatures both daytime and nighttime getting extremely cold, we are going to keep both of our warming centers open around the clock through noon Wednesday, so Hartford residents have a place where they can stay warm at all times,” Bronin said. Bloomfield opened its warming centers Monday but they are only open during the day. The Alvin and Beatrice Wood Human Services Center, at 330 Park Ave. in Bloomfield, will be open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. The Prosser Library, at 1 Tunxis Ave., will be open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Service dogs are always welcome. Hartford Public Schools announced a two-hour delay for Tuesday. “The very low temperatures, combined with the wind chill, could be dangerous in the early morning hours,” the district said in a release. Connecticut is predicted to get a cold snap into Wednesday, according to meteorologist Gary Lessor. Overnight temperatures Monday were in the single digits, with wind chills below zero. Temperatures Tuesday will peak in the mid-teens, with wind chill values around zero most of the day. Overnight lows could fall to 10 below zero in some places, especially in Litchfield County, Lessor said.

Masks

from Page 1

East Windsor

A universal mask mandate was effective in East Windsor on Jan. 7 and ends Feb. 1. “All private businesses within the Town of East Windsor are required to have all employees and patrons wear a mask while in their facility,” First Selectman Jason E. Bowsza wrote in a letter on Jan. 4.

Hamden

On Dec. 11, Hamden reinstated its universal indoor mask mandate in any spaces open to the public. Mayor Lauren Garrett, in her declaration, added that masks are

required “in any private indoor business, and in any places of employment, where social distancing is impractical, unlikely, or difficult to maintain.”

Hartford

Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin issued a universal mask mandate on Jan. 3 and ending Feb. 1. Exceptions are allowed “for those with relevant medical conditions, those under the age of 2, those eating or drinking, and in certain circumstances inside private offices and office-buildings,” a news release states.

Middletown

A universal indoor mask mandate was enacted in Middle-

town on Jan. 6. “The order will remain in effect until February 1, 2022, unless extended due to ongoing need,” Mayor Benjamin Florsheim wrote in a release.

New Haven

New Haven initiated a universal mask mandate in August and has not lifted it. Town officials have rigorously enforced the mandate with inspections at hundreds of businesses, with a handful of verbal or written warnings issued.

Norwalk

The city of Norwalk instituted a universal mask mandate on Dec. 23. “The mandate will be contin-

ually evaluated and reviewed in consultation with the Norwalk Health Department and will remain in effect until transmission rates decrease,” a town announcement stated.

Stamford

Stamford issued a universal mask mandate on Dec. 21. “The mask mandate will be temporary and reassessed by the administration, continuing until transmission rates decrease,” a press release states.

South Windsor

South Windsor issued a universal mask mandate Jan. 9. “The order will be lifted when the community is in the yellow

category, which is 5-9 cases per 100,000 per day,” the town’s website states.

West Hartford

A universal indoor mask mandate was enacted on Jan. 6. No end date was announced. Mayor Shari Cantor called on Lamont to implement a statewide mandate. “COVID-19 does not stop at municipal borders. Our hospitals and health care delivery systems are all regional assets that serve multiple communities,” she told The Courant when she issued the mandate. “There should be one common statewide and regional standard.” Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

Wildlife

from Page 1

the ice and dragged tree and owl to shore, Kaeser said. Rescuers removed a large lure, hook, and a lot of line and put the owl in a warm box to transport to an avian veterinarian, state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection spokesman Will Healey said. A close examination showed the owl had dislocated a shoulder and had struggled so frantically that the wing was cut to the bone in places, Kaeser said. Federal rules prohibit amputating a raptor’s wing above the elbow, Healey said, and “even in captivity, a large amputation is so detrimental to them that

they cannot often survive or thrive.” Birds, turtles and other animals regularly get tangled, hobbled, choked and killed by littered fishing line. Last year, Kaeser said, she rescued a great horned owl that was snagged in line on the bank of the Willimantic river. That bird survived and was released back into the wild, but untold numbers of birds and other animals die in futile struggles with the cutting line. “The amount that’s left out there is ridiculous,” Kaeser said. “The amount that’s left out there shows there’s not a whole lot of effort to properly dispose of it.” Leaving behind fishing line can bring fines of up to \$319. DEEP suggests that anglers not fish in spots where their lines are likely to

snag on high limbs, Healey said. Monofilament line has long been a hazard because it is strong and essentially lasts forever. Wildlife usually cannot survive injuries from entanglements. Anglers and hikers can help by discarding line in recycling receptacles installed at inland and coastal sites around the state. The disposed line is sent to a company that recycles it to make underwater habitat structures for fish, according to DEEP. For information on recycling sites, visit portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Wildlife/Learn-About-Wildlife/Fishing-Line-Recycling-Locations. Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com



This red-throated loon was found in Guilford with fishing tackle entangled around its body, according to DEEP. COURTESY

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TRIBUNE PUBLISHING

CONNECTICUT

Glastonbury firm hit by ransomware attack

Company hosts thousands of school websites, but no reports of compromised student data, AG says

By Jesse Leavenworth
Hartford Courant

A Glastonbury-based company that hosts thousands of school websites in Connecticut and across the nation continued to recover Monday from a ransomware attack launched last week. “We still have no evidence that any data has been viewed, compromised or extracted,” Finalsité spokeswoman Morgan Delack said. Finalsité has identified the cyber attacker and how they entered the system, but Delack would not identify the attacker or say whether the company paid ransom to restore

the breached systems. Attorney General William Tong said his office was monitoring the attack closely. “Right now,” Tong said, “there are no reports that student data or personal information has been compromised, which would trigger notification requirements to our office.” Ransomware uses encryption to disable computer systems. Cybercriminals demand payment in exchange for restoration, often threatening to sell or leak information if the ransom is not paid. On Jan. 4, Farmington schools and other districts with websites hosted by Finalsité discovered

their sites were not accessible or displayed errors. The company’s initial message said staff was “investigating an issue leading to increased error rates and performance issues...” A Jan. 6 update said staff had identified ransomware “on certain systems in our environment” on Jan. 4. An update Monday said the attack was not directed at any specific schools, but certain areas in the Finalsité systems as a whole. Client data stored in company databases is limited to demographics, including names and email addresses for some clients, and there is no evidence that such data was compromised, the company said. Finalsité does not store data such as credit card information, academic records, information related to students’ health or Social

Security numbers, Delack said. “The integrity, safety, and security of our network and the information held in our care are our top priorities,” the company said. “We are taking steps to secure the environment and ensure this type of incident does not occur again.” Ransomware has become an urgent national security problem. Many of the criminal hackers are based in Russia. In a June summit, President Joe Biden pushed Russian leader Vladimir Putin to clamp down on the surge of cybersecurity and ransomware attacks that have targeted businesses and government agencies in the U.S. and around the globe. Tong said no business or government entity is immune from a ransomware attack. He outlined necessary measures to protect

personal information and critical infrastructure, including following the president’s executive order on “Improving the Nation’s Cybersecurity,” which outlines best practices that include multi-factor authentication (because passwords alone are routinely compromised); endpoint detection and response (to hunt for malicious activity on a network and block it); encryption (so if data is stolen, it is unusable); and a skilled security team. Tong also announced a new online form designed to help businesses comply with their obligation to notify his office when they experience a data breach impacting Connecticut residents.

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com

POLICE BRIEFS

EAST HARTFORD

Deadly shooting under investigation

A man died in a weekend shooting in East Hartford, police said Monday, and detectives are investigating it as a homicide. Shortly before 3 p.m. Sunday, officers responded to a report of a male victim on the ground near 25 Westbrook St., police said. He was pronounced dead. Citing the active nature of the investigation, police declined to release details Monday morning. They expected to release more information later in the day. Channel 8, WTNH, reported that the man’s body ended up in front of a Westbrook Street homeowner’s house, unbeknownst to the resident. The homeowner told the TV station he was working on a puzzle when he noticed a police officer walking on his driveway. When he stepped outside, he saw a body between his car and the side door.

— Christine Dempsey

PLAINFIELD

Pre-dawn condo fire leaves 1 dead

A resident died in an early-morning fire in a Plainfield condominium Monday. The fire on Sachem Drive in the Central Village section of town was reported shortly before 3 a.m. Monday. First responders worked to evacuate the burning building, but someone was still inside, police said. Firefighters found a victim as they were putting out the fire, and the person was pronounced dead, according to police. The most damage was in one of four condominium units at 107, 109, 111 and 113 Sachem Drive. Footage of the scene shows that the second floor of the unit was obliterated. Anyone with information that may help investigators is asked to call the Plainfield Police Department at 860-564-0804.

— Christine Dempsey

HARTFORD

Woman dies after being struck by car

A 43-year-old Hartford woman was killed on Saturday night when she was struck by a car on Franklin Avenue at Bliss Street, Hartford police report. Yarillis Esteras, of 32 Adelaide St., was taken to Hartford Hospital, where she died. Hartford Police Department spokesman Aaron Boisvert said police received a report at around 11:30 p.m. of a serious car crash at 348 Franklin Ave. Officers found Esteras critically injured. The vehicle that struck her, and its driver, were on the scene. The crash is being investigated. Anyone with any information can call the HPD Tip Line at 860-722-TIPS (8477).

— Susan Dunne

Mohegan Sun set to whet appetites for dining, drinks

Casino hosting its Restaurant Week celebration, Wine and Food Fest back to back in Uncasville

By Susan Dunne
Hartford Courant

Mohegan Sun brings back its annual Restaurant Week on Jan. 23 to 27 with daily special deals at several restaurants in the casino complex in Uncasville. Immediately following (Jan. 27 to 30) is the Sun Wine and Food Fest, a celebration of beverage tastings, mixology demonstrations, dinners with curated pairings and a football brunch.

RESTAURANT WEEK DEALS

TAO Asian Bistro & Lounge, a meal for \$60. First course is salad, tuna tartare, chicken gyoza or Chilean sea bass satay. Second courses are black cod, orange chicken, lo mein or Japanese fried chicken. Desserts are molten chocolate cake with salted caramel gelato, ice cream or sorbet. **Todd English’s Tuscany**, a meal for \$55. First course is Caesar salad or lobster bisque. Second course is penne with sausage and broccoli, roasted chicken or a four-ounce filet with shrimp scampi. Desserts are sorbet gelato with chocolate biscotti or tiramisu with coffee ganache. 5 p.m. to close. **Ballo Italian Restaurant**, a meal for \$35. First courses are Caesar salad, arugula salad or

meatballs. Second courses are rigatoni, chicken Francese, tagliatelle or salmon. Dessert is a dark chocolate-esspresso cannoli. **Michael Jordan’s Steak House**, a meal for \$69. First course is Caesar with beef tartare, quail egg, crostini and aioli. Second course is a seven-ounce tuna steak. Dessert is chocolate bread pudding and vanilla ice cream. **MJ23 Sports Bar & Grill**, a meal for \$39. First course is a salad of lettuce, Brussels sprouts, pomegranate and goat cheese. Second course is an 8-ounce sirloin, two shrimp and mashed potatoes. Dessert is chocolate bread pudding and vanilla ice cream. **SolToro Mexican cantina**, a meal for \$39. First course is pork carnitas flautas. Second course is duck tacos with duck carnitas. Dessert is chocolate ganache and vanilla ice cream. **Lansdowne Irish Pub & Music House**, a dinner of shepherd’s pie, bangers, baked beans, corned beef, cabbage and carrots for \$30. Corned beef and cabbage egg rolls are \$15. S’mores bread pudding with vanilla ice cream and chocolate sauce is \$12. **Jasper White’s Summer Shack**, a dine-in meal for \$60: Caesar salad, lobster, corn on the cob and Key lime pie. **Sushi Koya**, sushi pizza and



COURANT FILE PHOTO

maki roll for \$25, dine-in only. **Dunkin’**, buy one large hot or iced coffee and receive a small hot or iced coffee, from noon to 6 p.m. More information at mohegansun.com

SUN WINE AND FOOD FEST SCHEDULE

Jan. 27
7 p.m.: Chefs Todd English, Marc Orfaly, Tony Susi, Michael Serpa and Todd Winer will create a five-course dinner with paired Far Niente and Nickle & Nickel wines. \$225 online, \$250 day-of.

Jan. 28
6 to 9 p.m.: Whiskeys of the World, with tastings of beverages from Japan, Ireland, Scotland and Kentucky, paired with small plates from those drinks’ geographic origins. \$100 online, \$125 day-of. **8 to 10 p.m.:** Grand Tasting Preview, with more than 1,000 varieties of beer, wine and spirits, with option to purchase food. \$75 online, \$80 day-of, \$20 designated drivers. **9 to 11 p.m.:** Mixology demonstration with complementary cocktails, by Tom Sandoval and

Tom Schwartz of Toms’ Good Lovin’. \$40 online, \$50 day-of.

Jan. 29
1 to 5 p.m.: Grand Tasting, with more than 1,000 varieties of beer, wine and spirits, with option to purchase food, and chef demonstrations. \$125, \$135 day-of, \$20 designated drivers. **4 to 6 p.m.:** Vintage Cru, with tastings and chats with winemakers. Wine can be purchased and shipped. \$150 online, \$165 day-of, includes \$50 iGourmet gift card. **8 to 10:30 p.m.:** Celebrity Chef Dine Around, with 20 chefs preparing foods paired with beverages, and dancing. \$250 online, \$275 day-of.

Jan. 30
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.: Game Day Brunch with Buddy Valastro and Victor Cruz, with brunch, beverages and a football championship game on the big screens. \$90, \$100 day-of. For details and to buy tickets, visit mohegansun.com/sun-wine-and-food-fest.

Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

Bristol neighbors fight for local clean air rules

City council urged to block Covanta’s plan to burn medical waste

By Don Stacom
Hartford Courant

BRISTOL — Fearing that operations could start as soon as early this year, opponents of Covanta’s plan to burn medical waste at its Bristol incinerator are pressing the city council this week to intervene. Homeowners who’ve banded together as Bristol Residents for Clean Air put out an email to local homes Monday urging people to speak up when the council convenes Tuesday evening. “Without your assistance, we are in certain danger of losing a well-fought, clean air initiative for the city of Bristol,” wrote Jodie Bechard, chief organizer of the Covanta opposition. Opponents spent much of last year trying to stop Covanta from burning up to 57 tons of medical waste a day at its Bristol trash incinerator. They argue that mixing waste from southern New England hospitals and medical clinics into the main trash-to-energy stream at the plant could create hazardous fumes. “Tell council members that it

is not OK to breathe in medical waste toxins,” the group wrote on its Facebook page Monday. “If tobacco and marijuana smoke is prohibited in public areas of town, mercury, lead, PFAS and dioxins should be too.” The group last week called on the city council’s ordinance committee to quickly adopt new air pollution ordinances in hopes that would block the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection from granting Covanta a permit modification - or better regulate the operation if it’s approved. “The state has a goal from an executive order of Gov. Lamont to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45% by 2030,” resident David Rackliffe told the council in a December presentation. “Approving this permit is not consistent with that initiative, and yet we believe that DEEP will grant his amendment to the current burning permit, and biomedical waste will be burned when plant modifications are completed.” Rackliffe and other opponents called on the council to adopt clean air ordinances that would require frequent monitoring of emissions from Covanta’s smokestack. He noted that state regulations allow towns to establish local clean air standards - but acknowl-

edged that they would have power only if the were approved by DEEP. Mayor Jeff Caggiano so far has not publicly committed to a stance other than to say that he and the council will ensure air quality in the city. “Covanta has been burning trash safely in Bristol for 34 years,” he said Monday. “It is the goal of my administration to make sure that trash-to-energy operations continue in a safe manner.” Covanta currently has a permit to burn more than 700 tons of trash daily that’s collected from dozens of Connecticut towns. The company wants to use up to 8 percent of that capacity for medical waste, a vastly more profitable part of the trash incineration industry. Some of the items that would be burned include used bandages, needles, IV bags, vials, patient bedding and gowns as well as tissue samples from biopsies and organs from surgical procedures. Covanta has stipulated that it would not burn cadavers, fetuses, large animal carcasses, pharmaceutical waste categorized as hazardous by the Environmental Protection Agency, bulk chemotherapy waste or similar items. Opponents want to block the medical waste burning from happening or at least get a

mandate for frequent, complex emissions monitoring. The company counters that its similar facilities in Oregon and Alabama have all operated for years without exceeding the caps on emissions set by state permit. “There has been no discernable effect on emissions,” the company said. “In fact, stack testing at these facilities, conducted while combusting biomedical waste, has demonstrated that the emissions have continued to be much lower than the permit limits.” The opponents will ask the council Tuesday night to authorize hiring a consultant to help draft local clean air ordinances. They are recommending Mike Ewall, director of the Energy Justice Network. Caggiano and the six council members are all Republicans serving first terms since November. Opponents largely supported the GOP ticket after blaming then-Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu and the all-Democratic council for not better informing taxpayers that Covanta had been pursuing plans since 2018. “Remind your council representative that they were elected to do something different than the previous administration,” the group said on its Facebook page Monday in a call for a citywide email campaign to the council.



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www.lawsilver.com john@lawsilver.com**

Everyone Is Invited To A

VIRTUAL PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

State Project No. 88-196 & 88-197
Rehabilitation of Bridge No. 04247 carrying High Street and B&M Railroad & Rehabilitation of Bridge No. 04246 carrying Washington Street over Route 72 in the City of New Britain

Residents, commuters, business owners, and other interested individuals are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to learn about and discuss the proposed project.

Please join us on Tuesday, January 18, 2022

The meeting will be live streamed via: Microsoft Teams Live Event and YouTube Live

Formal Presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m.
Question and Answer (Q&A) session will immediately follow the presentation.

Instructions on how to access the meeting and on how to provide comments or ask questions, can be found at the project webpage: <https://portal.ct.gov/DOTNewBritain88-196-7>

The public informational meeting is being held to provide the public and local community the opportunity to offer comments or ask questions regarding the proposed project. Persons with limited internet access may request that project information be mailed to them by contacting Alvaro Garcia Jr., P.E. by email at alvaro.garcia@ct.gov or by phone at (860) 594-3353. (Allow one week for processing and delivery.)

Individuals with limited internet access can listen to the meeting by calling 1-888-566-5916 and entering the Participant Code when prompted: 9977843. Persons with hearing and/or speech disabilities may dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS). The MS Teams Live Event offers closed-captioning for the hearing impaired and non-English translation options. A recording of the formal presentation will be posted to YouTube following the event and closed-captioning (including non-English translation options) will be available at that time. The recording will also be available in the list of DOT virtual public meetings here: <https://portal.ct.gov/dot/general/CTDOT-VPIM-Library>

Visit the project webpage for options for Apple users. During the Q&A session and the 14-day comment period that follows the meeting, individuals may leave a question or comment via email (preferred) at DOTProject88-196-7@ct.gov. Individuals may also leave a voicemail question or comment by calling (860) 944-1111. Please reference the project in your voicemail.

Language assistance may be requested by contacting the Department's Language Assistance Call Line (860) 594-2109. Requests should be made at least 5 business days prior to the meeting. Language assistance is provided at no cost to the public and efforts will be made to respond to timely requests for assistance.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Thaddeus G. Mielczarski, Late of Higganum, AKA Thaddeus Mielczarski (21-0786)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated January 4, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Jacqueline Craco, Assistant Clerk

The fiduciary is:
: Cheryl R. Levensaler
c/o KRISTEN BROOKE PROUT, RWC LLC
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW,
330 SOUTH MAIN STREET, MIDDLETOWN, CT 06457

1/11/22 7121668

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Patricia Nadeau, Late of Westbrook (21-0753)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated January 4, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Marge B. Calltharp, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Marc Nadeau, 95 New Quarry Rd, Guilford, CT 06437
1/11/2022 7121859

NOTICE

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the location indicated:
132 Silas Deane Highway
Wethersfield, CT 06109
860-916-0534
Auction Date- Jan 25, 2022 1:00 PM
465 Harrison Tagnidoung Housegoods
445 Roxanne DeBlois Housegoods
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storagetreasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.
1/11, 1/18/2022 7117738

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Douglas H. Williams, Late of Chester (21-0811)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated January 4, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Marge B. Calltharp, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Pamela A. Williams
c/o TODD COREN RATNER, 70 GREEN WILLOW DRIVE, LONGMEADOW, MA 01106

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Estuary Transit District (ETD) is seeking sealed proposals from qualified firms to perform a Fare Study. Copies of the RFP are available by emailing jcomerford@estuarytransit.org or by calling (860) 510-0429, ext. 101

Proposals must be delivered by mail or hand delivery to Joseph Comerford, Estuary Transit District, 91 N Main St, Middletown, CT 06457. Proposals, to be considered and evaluated, must be received before 3:00 PM on February 16, 2022. Proposals received after the above scheduled opening time and date will not be considered. Faxed or e-mailed proposals are not acceptable.

ETD reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to waive any and all informality or irregularities, to negotiate with any qualified bidders, and to accept or reject all or any part of any proposal as they may deem to be in the best interest of ETD.
1/11/2022 7122579

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF James John Pandolfo, Sr (21-00918)

The Hon. Michael A. Carrier, Judge of the Court of Probate, Berlin Probate Court, by decree dated December 27, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Susan I. Meagher, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Cordelia C. Pandolfo, 291 Berlin Street, East Berlin, CT 06023
1/11/22 7122228

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Robert P. Donlin, Late of Essex (21-0758)

The Hon. Jeannine Lewis, Judge of the Court of Probate, Saybrook Probate Court, by decree dated January 5, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Marge B. Calltharp, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Nora Donlin
c/o JOHN C. HEFFERNAN, HEFFERNAN LEGAL GROUP 433 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 114, WEST HARTFORD, CT 06110
1/11/22 7122369

TOWN OF CROMWELL INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES AGENCY

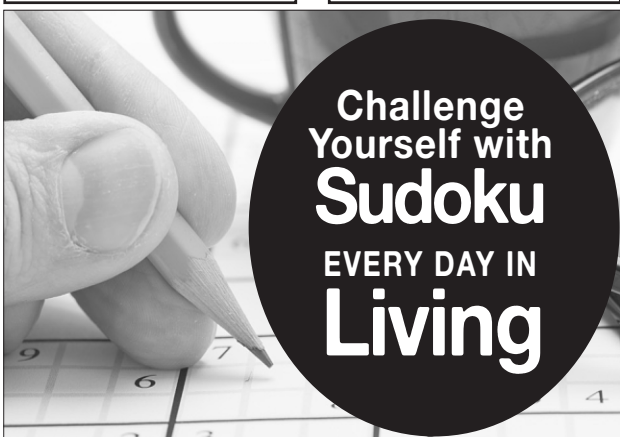
NOTICE OF DECISION

At its regular meeting on January 5, 2022 the Cromwell Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency met and took the following actions:


1. Voted to approved Application #21-07: Request to conduct activities within the Upland Review Area to allow for the construction of additional parking spaces at 60 Hicksville Road. Adelbrook, Inc. is the Applicant and the Owner.

John Whitney
Chairman, Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency


Dated in Cromwell, Connecticut this 7th day of January 2022.
1/11/2022 7123572



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APPRECIATION SIDNEY POITIER

Actor made it easy to be in the presence of greatness

By Greg Braxton
Los Angeles Times

It's never easy meeting a legend. Interviewing larger-than-life figures has always been daunting for me. At times it can be disorienting, at others a letdown. Then there was Sidney Poitier. I only spoke to Mr. Poitier twice — in 2000, during an interview about a documentary exploring his groundbreaking career, and a more informal encounter at a book signing a few years later. Both times I was short of breath. My awe of him was fueled by the impression he had made on me as a youngster watching “Lilies of the Field” on my parents’ black-and-white TV. His amazing 1967 trifecta — “In the Heat of the Night,” “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner” and “To Sir, with Love” — were must-sees, not only for Black moviegoers but for viewers of all colors. As a teen, my friends and I were first-weekenders for his films, especially his comedies with Bill Cosby: “Uptown Saturday Night,” “A Piece of the Action” and “Let’s Do It Again.” And “brilliant actor” was far from the only line on Mr. Poitier’s resume. He projected an admirable dignity and confidence

that made his fans feel they were watching greatness in action. And what he represented as a Black artist who was so highly respected — who was truly Hollywood royalty — was immeasurable to me. So it’s probably not surprising that I was so nervous in the days leading up to our 2000 interview. Even two decades later, I still remember it vividly. Poitier was promoting “Sidney Poitier: One Bright Light,” a biographical “American Masters” documentary directed and narrated by his friend and “In the Heat of the Night” co-star Lee Grant. In addition to showcasing his groundbreaking film career, the project traced Poitier from his childhood in the Bahamas through his awkward and nearly disastrous beginnings as an actor in New York, and extended into his emotional salute at the 1995 Kennedy Center Honors and his appointment as the Bahamian ambassador to Japan. I walked into the suite at the Pasadena Ritz-Carlton that PBS had booked for a junket, tape recorder clutched in my sweaty hand. Mr. Poitier greeted me with a strong handshake. I sat opposite him, almost in disbelief that he was actually there in the flesh. He was 72 at the time, but I was struck by how



Actor Sidney Poitier, above, who died Jan. 6 at age 94, projected an admirable dignity and confidence that made his fans feel they were watching greatness in action, writes Greg Braxton. **MATT SAYLES/AP**

movie-star handsome and youthful he still looked. My nerves were calmed by his quiet dignity. Although he was aware of his status as a screen icon, he was more personable — and down to Earth — than many celebrities I’d met before, or have since. His smile and his voice were electric. He could not have been more polite. As we discussed the biography, he made it clear that fame meant little to him and that he took little pleasure in being considered a cultural symbol. “That is not the person I carry around with me,” he said. “The person I carry around is still very much alive, not in the past.” It was that aversion to celebrity that made it so difficult for Grant to convince Poitier to partic-

ipate in the project. She pleaded with him for years, and he politely but consistently resisted. But she finally wore him down. “I have known her for many years, and as an actress, she is just mesmerizing, very gifted,” he said. “I knew that as a director, she would know how to handle it. I thought about it for quite a while, and she kept checking in. Finally, I said, ‘I’ll do it, for no one but you.’ She is a kindred soul.” Mr. Poitier took a while when I asked him to name his favorite performance or movie. He said he was pleased with moments in “The Defiant Ones,” “A Raisin in the Sun,” “In the Heat of the Night” and “A Warm December.” Then he slowly smiled: “And ‘A Piece of the Action.’ I

remember seeing that again not long ago. And I can say to myself, ‘That was it. I got close to the mark.’” As he spoke, I resisted the temptation to look to see if my tape recorder was working. I silently prayed that it wasn’t malfunctioning. When the PBS publicist came over to announce that our time was up, my eyes widened. Our conversation had lasted about 40 minutes, but it seemed that only a few moments had passed. I grabbed the recording and awkwardly attempted to tell Mr. Poitier how much he meant to me and how I wished we could keep talking. He said nothing, but gave me the warmest of smiles. I exhaled deeply, almost stumbling as I exited the suite. About two years later, I was doing a story on actor

Robert Guillaume. I went to Book Soup in Hollywood to cover a signing for his book “Guillaume: A Life.” Mr. Poitier was there — the two were good friends. After the reading, I hung back, trying to summon the courage to approach him. I finally went up to him: “You probably don’t remember me, but I interviewed you a few years ago, and it was such an honor.” His warm smile reappeared. “Oh, I remember you,” he said, as if we were old friends. Once again, I could barely speak. Hearing of Mr. Poitier’s death filled me with such sadness. But I am so honored that I got to meet him, and those memories will forever live with me. When it came to spending a few moments with a true legend, he made it easy.

CELEBRITIES

Ye documentary coming to theaters

From news services

A documentary on the artist formerly known as Kanye West is coming to theaters next month. Part one of the three-part Ye documentary “Jeen-yuhs: A Kanye Trilogy” will hit the big screen on Feb. 10, nearly a week before its Feb. 16 premiere on Netflix. “Jeen-yuhs” will be released on Netflix over the course of three weeks, according to Rolling Stone. The official trailer, released Monday, shows a young then-Kanye in 2002 upset at rapper Rhymefest for doubting his self-proclaimed genius status, alluding to the doc’s title. “Who are you to call yourself a genius?” Rhymefest asks Ye in the clip. Ye answers by flashing a grin at the camera. Directors Coodie Simmons and Chike Ozah shot the documentary footage over 20 years, capturing everything from Ye with his late mother Donda West to behind-the-scenes coverage of his failed 2020 presidential campaign.

Guthrie tests positive: Savannah Guthrie filmed the “Today” show remotely Monday after a positive COVID-19 test. “We’re trading places,” Guthrie, 50, said to co-host Hoda Kotb. “I’m working from home. You’re back in the studio. You have a negative test for COVID. I just tested positive for COVID, so here we go.” Guthrie’s breakthrough case comes after Kotb’s similar breakthrough case. “I know that your negative test will come quickly but here’s to happy healing,” Kotb, who tested positive on Thursday, but tested negative twice since then, replied. On the air, Guthrie said her symptoms were mild. Guthrie is fully vaccinated and boosted.



Musician Ye, formerly known as Kanye West, is the subject of “Jeen-yuhs: A Kanye Trilogy.” **EVAN AGOSTINI/INVISION 2020**

Watters lands Fox News’ slot: Fox News Channel has given its 7 p.m. Eastern hour on weeknights to opinion host Jesse Watters, whose star has risen with the ratings success of “The Five,” where he is a regular panelist. Watters will remain on “The Five,” but will give up his Saturday night show “Watters’ World,” Fox said on Monday. Watters will be followed in the evenings by Tucker Carlson, Sean Hannity and Laura Ingraham.

Actor, producer Hickman dies: Dwayne Hickman, 87, the actor and network TV executive who despite numerous achievements throughout his life would always be remembered fondly by a generation of baby boomers for his role as Dobie Gillis, has died. Hickman died of complications from Parkinsons on Sunday at his home in Los Angeles, according to a statement from a family

representative. “The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis,” marked by sharp humor and a brilliant young cast that also included Bob Denver, Warren Beatty and Tuesday Weld, was an instant hit when it debuted in 1959. The TV show folded in 1963. Hickman, who was also an accomplished painter, went on to appear on other TV shows and in movies, as well as to successful behind-the-scenes careers as a publicist, talent booker and TV programming executive.

Jan. 11 birthdays: Actor Mitchell Ryan is 88. Singer Naomi Judd is 76. Actor Phyllis Logan is 66. Guitarist Vicki Peterson is 64. Actor Kim Coles is 60. Singer Mary J. Blige is 51. Actor Amanda Peet is 50. Actor Rockmond Dunbar is 49. Actor Aja Naomi King is 37. TV personality Jason Wahler is 35. Singer Cody Simpson is 25.



ASK AMY

By Amy Dickinson
askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Grandparents aim to set house rules for stay

Dear Amy: My 18-year-old granddaughter is going to live with us after her high school graduation. She is coming to stay with us to work for a year and establish residency in our state, which is awash in good quality public universities. We are excited to have her come live with us. I want the experience to be positive, but I know clear expectations are important. My husband and I drew up a list of things that we expected from her: Getting a job, taking care of her bedroom and bathroom, learning to drive and to use public transportation, no male overnight guests, house sit when we take short trips — things like that. We do not expect her to pay rent; we are doing this because college is insanely expensive, and we want to help. What are some pitfalls we should be aware of?

— *Helpful Grammy*

Dear Grammy: I lived with family members during my first year of college, and I will always look back on that time with extreme gratitude. I also wonder if I did enough while I was with them to ease their burden for housing, feeding, and basically taking such good care of me. All of your expectations are reasonable, but I suggest that you take them in reasonable stages. Focus on the transportation issue first, because that will enable her to get herself back and forth to work. After she moves in, negotiate a reasonable nighttime curfew and emphasize that she

should contact you if she is running late (this is an extremely important safety issue for a new commuter who might be working shifts). Communicating about these practical matters is vital; and you and she should also have “family meetings” where you can all bring up matters relating to the household. Don’t hover over her too closely, and understand that she (and you) will occasionally fail.

Dear Amy: My husband and I are 49 and 50 years old. The past 18-month period has been psychologically, physically and especially financially hard on us. My husband got injured at work, and I lost my job. We decided to cash in our 401(k) plans and consider being retired. We have two grown sons (late 20s) who are both married. Both men aren’t well off, but they both are doing OK for their little families. My husband and I decided to give each son and their wives a generous cash Christmas present this year. It was no big deal. We had it and shared it. However, during my Christmas get-together with the five of them, all we heard was what they got for their wives’ parents: new TV’s and dining room sets. We didn’t even get a Christmas card. We do more for our sons than either one of their in-laws do. My husband and I can’t help but feel slighted. Should I let them know that they hurt our feelings,

or should we just let it go?

— *Feeling Slighted*

Dear Slighted: My main reaction is to your choice to cash in your savings and “retire” at the age of 50. By cashing out early, you’ve already lost a percentage of your savings through a penalty. You and your husband are at least 12 years away from the possibility of receiving Social Security. Even if he is receiving disability compensation, this is an extremely short-sighted choice to make. My second reaction is to your choice to give a portion of this money away to people who don’t need it or — it seems — want it. I hope you will reflect on your own situation and make sounder financial choices. And yes — you should let your sons know exactly how wounded you feel.

Dear Amy: Like you, I, too, was a waitress. I will happily leave 20% or more to a server who is pleasant and attentive. However, a server who slams a dish down on the table and never even makes eye contact during the whole meal will be lucky to even get 15%. The original meaning was “To Insure Promptness.” Times have changed.

— *NC Appreciative Reader*

Dear Reader: Thank you for the reminder of what a “tip” is supposed to reward.

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It's all there in black and white for these films

By Chris Hewitt
Minneapolis Star Tribune

Hollywood's award season has been invaded by monochromatic films.

Four awards contenders are ROYGBIV-less: Kenneth Branagh's "Belfast," "C'mon C'mon" with Joaquin Phoenix, Rebecca Hall's "Passing" and Joel Coen's "The Tragedy of Macbeth." That could be more noncolor films than we've had at any one time since their premature "death" in 1966, the last year an Oscar was given for black-and-white cinematography ("Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf" won).

There are plenty of reasons to shoot a movie in black and white, but often it's to anchor it in the past. Our great-grandmothers — and everything else — were in color, of course, but monochromatic images seem to take us back, perhaps because we're aware that black-and-white photographs preceded color ones. Draining the frame of color immediately transports us out of the present and into whatever tale the filmmakers have dreamed up.

"Belfast" takes clever liberties with that. Cinematographer Haris Zambarloukos opens it with color images of the city today before shifting to 1969 and going black and white. But, at key moments in the movie, color is reintroduced.

When the central family goes to the movies, they stay in black and white but "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" is in vivid color, maybe to hint there's a life for them far from the troubles that rage outside their front door. When the film's Buddy (Jude Hill) and his grandmother (Judi Dench) attend a production of "A Christmas Carol," it's also in color. As the ghosts tell Ebenezer Scrooge about the future he could have, we see the stage actors reflected — in color — in Dench's black-and-white glasses.



Billy Bob Thornton and Frances McDormand in the Ethan and Joel Coen film "The Man Who Wasn't There." MELINDA SUE GORDON

Obviously, Branagh is not the first contemporary director to fall in love with black-and-white images. Joel and Ethan Coen ("The Man Who Wasn't There"), Steven Spielberg ("Schindler's List"), Alfonso Cuaron ("Roma") and David Fincher ("Mank") are right there with him. Those films were all nominated for cinematography Oscars, and it would not be surprising to see a couple of this year's films join that club.

Two fairly recent best picture winners, "Schindler" and "The Artist," demonstrate that Oscar voters like black and white almost as much as folks such as Steven Soderbergh, whose "Kafka" is colorless and who loves the look

so much that he created a version of "Raiders of the Lost Ark" in the monochromatic style of the '40s movies to which "Raiders" pays homage.

George Miller has even claimed his masterpiece "Mad Max: Fury Road" is better in a black-and-white alternate version, not the color one that was released. You can watch it and judge for yourself, or take a look at a comparison of scenes in both versions, which illustrates how mesmerizing the giant sandstorm is in eerie shades of gray.

Still, many moviegoers seem to want color. Black-and-white films rarely become hits (you'd have to go back to "Schindler" in 1993).

That's why filmmakers must fight for it passionately, and maybe why the few movies that do get made that way tend to be good, or at least good looking.

Both are true of the following latter-day black-and-white movies, which don't need color to make an impact.

'The Man Who Wasn't There': The Coens' melodrama was shot by frequent collaborator Roger Deakins, who earned one of his 15 Oscar nominations because he does such inventive things with the camera. He nods to the film noir movies that inspired "Man" with, for instance, a shot in which

bars of light trap Billy Bob Thornton as he's about to head to the slammer. **'Cold War':** Nostalgia isn't the aim in this Oscar nominee for direction (Pawel Pawlikowski) and cinematography (Lukasz Zal), although it is set in the 1950s. Black and white is a way of visualizing the relationship of a man and woman whose temperaments are so diametrically opposed that their romance is doomed.

'Raging Bull': A paradox: Black-and-white movies feel gritty and realistic, even though reality is not black and white. The events depicted in Martin Scorsese's boxing-themed drama occurred, but cinematog-

rapher Michael Chapman achieves a dreamlike, surreal quality with weird flashes of light as well as sped-up and slowed-down images. Chapman said the idea was to reflect the reality of title character Jake LaMotta, who's split between cool confidence in the ring and chaos outside of it.

'Frances Ha': Black and white is usually reserved for dramas, but Noah Baumbach's comedy is an exception, in which he and cinematographer Sam Levy chose a blurry, deliberately low-fi look to salute the French New Wave movies, such as "Jules and Jim," that inspired them.

'Time': Just as rare as a comedy in black and white is a documentary. It often includes archival footage but "Time" achieves its moody tone by draining color from all the inspiring, frustrating and hopeful scenes of Fox Rich, who raises six kids on her own while fighting for her husband's release from prison.

'She's Gotta Have It': Spike Lee may have shot in black and white because it's stylishly melancholy, but it also underlines a key theme, which is that white people make it difficult for Nola Darling, who is Black and dating around, to find professional or personal happiness.

'Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid': The Steve Martin comedy is droll, but its real achievement is its technical wizardry. The script works Martin's gumshoe character into existing film noir movies, then cinematographer Chapman matched contemporary footage of Martin and others with existing scenes featuring Humphrey Bogart and Joan Crawford. It sounds like it wouldn't work but it does, and it demonstrates how many different variations of black and white are possible.

TV Q&A

Why do shows air out of order?

By Rich Heldenfels
Tribune News Service

Q: When I'm watching reruns of a series, they'll show several episodes in a row. However, most of the time those episodes are not chronological. Why aren't they shown in their original broadcast sequence?

A: When I am watching reruns on some cable channels in the daytime, I will often see episodes run in chronological order, especially when the storyline is a multiple-episode one. But that depends on the network and the program. In broadcast and cable, programmers do not always own all the episodes and tend to focus on episodes they know are popular with viewers, even if they are out of order, and sometimes put together themed sets of telecasts (for example, airing a sequence of "NCIS" Christmas episodes during the holidays). Streaming services are more likely to have all the episodes available in order and in their entirety, but even there, it's not always the case.

Q: In the late '80s, there was a show called "Wiseguy" starring Ken Wahl. Where can I watch reruns?

A: The possible homes for TV shows and movies are numerous. I work hard to find the homes of various productions and to mention them here. But there's always a chance there are other locations. As for "Wiseguy," which aired on CBS from 1987 to 1990, Wahl starred as an undercover agent investigating organized crime for three seasons, with Steven Bauer becoming the new "wiseguy" in a brief final season. There was also a reunion movie with Wahl. The original series favored serialized, multiple-episode stories and colorful



Chris Rock in season four of "Fargo." ELIZABETH MORRIS/FX

villains, played by, among others, Ray Sharkey, Tim Curry and Stanley Tucci. I have found episodes on streaming channels Tubi, Pluto, IMDb TV, Roku Channel and Peacock. There have also been some DVD releases. But some episodes are not available, apparently because of rights issues.

Q: I remember a Western movie, maybe from the late '70s, about a gunfight. I think one actor was Johnny Cash. The ending was shown twice depicting how life would go depending on who won the gunfight. If real, is it available?

A: It's a real movie, called "A Gunfight," from 1971. Kirk Douglas and Johnny Cash play gunfighters who stage a duel and sell tickets to it for a big payday. At the end, after the fight is over, a character imagines what might have happened if the fight's outcome had gone the other way. You can find the movie on YouTube.

Q: Is there any chance Cecil B. DeMille's "Samson and Delilah" (1949, with Hedy Lamarr and Victor Mature) will be shown on TV again?

A: I can't say when it was last on TV. I can tell you that Amazon Prime Video has it, as does Vudu. Depending on how you

access Kanopy, you may also find "Samson and Delilah" there. It has been released on DVD and Blu-ray. The Movies! channel has a reference to it, although I have not seen a listing of a scheduled telecast.

Q: Are Kimberly Williams-Paisley and Ashley Williams sisters in real life?

A: The stars of the recent "Sister Swap" TV movies are indeed sisters. Kimberly Williams-Paisley is the older of the two; she's married to musician Brad Paisley.

Q: Is it possible to bring up on demand the "Fargo" TV series? I am interested in getting the first season and watching from there. Also, will there be a fifth season?

A: I have not seen it on demand but have found the first four seasons on Hulu and Prime Video. Series creator Noah Hawley has talked about a fifth season, but he's a busy man, and I have not seen anything recently indicating where plans stand.

Do you have a question or comment about entertainment past, present and future? Write to Rich Heldenfels, P.O. Box 417, Mogadore, OH 44260, or brenfels@gmail.com. Letters may be edited.

HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19): Aggressively defending your beliefs could increase your social status at this time, as you may see yourself as the spokesperson for a large group of people. If you cross the line, even people on your side might be alienated.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): You may have a longing for adventure at this time — which could emerge in the form of stirring up drama with your friends. Even if you're feeling pressured to lead a responsible life and do what authority figures expect of you, there is likely something in you that wants more.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Deciding who has the authority to make a big decision might not be as straightforward as you'd like. You could be tempted to look to spirituality, but that might only complicate things further. Be honest with each other about any ways that your situation doesn't follow the rules.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): The belief that it's your duty to sacrifice could motivate you to work hard today. However, if you see others not following the rules that bind you, you may become resentful. Confronting them about your frustrations could be fruitful, even if you don't get your intended results.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): You may want to assert yourself today, but someone else could seem to be in your way. The most frustrating part is that you might discover the other person's boundaries by stepping on them. Discussing power dynamics openly can be intimidating, it can also get you real solutions.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Getting a lot done around the house could be on your agenda now. If you don't give them room to be honest about their lack of interest, they could end up sabotaging you. Only pursue your domestic projects if you have enough enthusiasm to do them! There's something more fun you'd rather be doing.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Irritation may provoke you to snap at others. The idea of starting a serious conversation about sharing responsibilities more fairly might petrify you. You may be afraid that someone else will become emotionally upset in a way you can't predict, while now you can control your own snark.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Impulse purchases could tempt you today. Instead of opening your wallet, try talking to someone about your frustrations. Even if they can't get rid of any circumstances that limit you, the feeling of simply being seen and heard for once might be quite a relief all on its own.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Being a rebel without a cause might feel frustrating. You may have the energy to burn, but finding something to use it on could be challenging. Your routine work might turn out to be more intense than usual today! A problem that comes up could be just the challenge you crave.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You're successfully concealing your complex feelings toward the people around you. While you might be concerned with looking good, you may be better off being honest. If people can already tell that something's wrong, they could be relieved to know what it really is. Don't put off ending the speculation.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You may have a powerful urge to impress your friends now, but your efforts could be straining your finances or even your values. If you feel like you aren't enough for others just the way you are, focus on being a better friend to yourself! Honor your unique desires.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): Getting validation from the outside world might seem like the best way to resolve your uncertainty about who you are. Connecting with your friends may help you stay grounded enough to enjoy any rewards in a healthy way. Your pals can give you room to express your quirky human nature.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On Jan. 11, 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt proclaimed the Grand Canyon National Monument.

In 1927, the creation of the Academy of Motion

Picture Arts and Sciences was proposed during a dinner at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles.

In 1935, Amelia Earhart began a trip from Honolulu to California that made her the first person to fly solo across any part of the Pacific Ocean.

In 1963, the Beatles' single "Please Please Me" was released in Britain.

In 1978, two Soviet cosmonauts aboard the Soyuz 27 capsule linked up with the Salyut 6 orbiting space station, where the Soyuz 26 capsule was already docked.

In 2020, authorities in the central Chinese city of Wuhan reported the first death from what had been identified as a new type of coronavirus; the patient was a 61-year-old man.

BONUS PUZZLE PAGE

An extra array of word games, search and Jumble. Want more? Play online at [PlayJumble.com](https://www.playjumble.com)



Scan QR code to play online.

SUDOKU

1	3	8						6
				6		1		
	7					5		
			6			9		
	8		2	1	4		7	
		4			3			
		6						9
		2		8				
9	1					3	4	

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Level: 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

2	7	8	9	7	9	1	6	8
9	9	7	6	8	1	2	7	8
1	6	8	2	8	7	9	9	7
8	1	2	8	6	7	9	9	
9	7	9	7	1	2	8	8	6
7	8	6	8	9	9	7	1	2
8	2	9	1	7	8	6	7	9
6	8	1	7	9	8	9	2	7
7	9	7	9	2	6	8	8	1

BOGGLE

Boggle BrainBusters!

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

L	B	A	V
I	E	R	E
G	S	T	A
U	O	M	H

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www.bogglebrainbusters.com

INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE POINT SCALE

- 3 letters = 1 point
- 4 letters = 2 points
- 5 letters = 3 points
- 6 letters = 4 points
- 7 letters = 6 points
- 8 letters = 10 points
- 9+ letters = 15 points

YOUR BOGGLE RATING

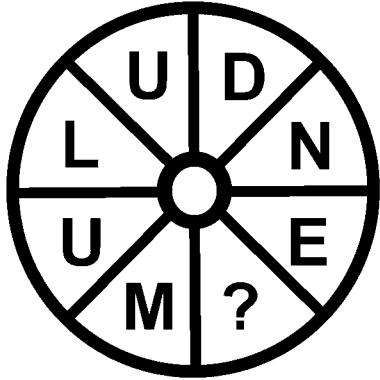
- 151+ = Champ
- 101-150 = Expert
- 61-100 = Pro
- 31-60 = Gamer
- 21-30 = Rookie
- 11-20 = Amateur
- 0-10 = Try again

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus
We put special brain-busting words into the grid of letters. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST FIVE RODENTS in the grid of letters.

RAT MOUSE BEAVER GÉRAL HAMSTER

WordWheel



Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or counterclockwise.

PENULTIM

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WORD SEARCH

Wordsearch: game show

Can you find all the words hidden in the grid? Read backwards or forwards, up or down, or diagonally. The words will always be in a straight line. Cross them off the list as you find them.

C	C	G	A	M	E	M	E	H	T	K	W	I	N	N	E	R	M
D	N	U	O	R	Y	M	I	F	N	C	Q	U	H	U	X	E	S
B	G	G	U	E	E	A	S	X	Y	O	C	O	W	H	S	Z	X
N	C	Z	N	M	U	E	G	N	E	L	L	A	H	C	P	Z	N
C	H	O	O	S	E	G	Z	S	P	C	U	N	Y	T	E	U	O
O	M	R	Y	E	N	V	E	L	O	P	E	K	R	U	E	B	I
R	Y	P	L	B	Y	E	A	L	M	T	L	R	O	C	D	A	T
Y	R	A	A	D	E	Y	Z	L	L	G	N	E	G	F	H	U	S
K	E	N	I	S	E	L	E	C	T	I	L	Z	E	M	Y	D	E
Y	W	E	C	R	A	Q	L	B	P	A	K	S	T	H	A	I	U
O	S	L	R	U	C	R	O	S	E	D	E	S	A	A	W	E	Q
T	N	R	E	P	U	A	S	V	H	L	P	E	C	N	Z	N	T
Y	A	A	M	E	R	A	E	J	Z	O	L	U	K	M	W	C	M
L	V	T	M	D	T	R	T	Z	N	M	U	G	T	A	O	E	T
D	R	I	O	H	A	R	U	S	Z	B	C	Q	T	T	E	S	T
D	T	N	C	S	I	P	O	P	Q	O	K	R	D	C	O	R	D
U	I	G	U	A	N	R	U	P	Q	U	I	Z	N	H	T	R	B
C	A	S	Q	C	B	J	A	C	K	P	O	T	T	J	G	J	E

ANSWER	CLUE	MEMORY	SKILL
AUDIENCE	COMMERCIAL	MONEY	SPEED
BELL	CUDDLY TOY	PANEL	SPIN
BOARD	CURTAIN	PLAYER	SPONSOR
BREAK	ENVELOPE	PUZZLE	TEAM
BUZZER	GAME	QUESTION	TEST
CASH	GUESS	QUIZ	THEME
CATEGORY	HOST	RATINGS	TIME
CHALLENGE	JACKPOT	REVEAL	TRIP
CHOOSE	LUCK	ROUND	WHEEL
CLOCK	MATCH	SELECT	WINNER

TV CROSSWORD

by Jacqueline E. Mathews

	1	2	3	4		5	6	7									
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12						13											
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	38		39							40							
	41									42							
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										44							

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

1/31/16

ACROSS

- 1 Cariou and Goodman
- 5 "___ Age"; blockbuster animated film
- 8 Actor and folksinger Burl
- 9 Disney's flying elephant
- 12 Headache remedy, for some
- 13 Actor Dennis ___
- 14 Man or boy
- 15 Holbrook and Linden
- 16 "20,000 Leagues Under the ___"
- 18 Like slick winter roads
- 19 "Who's the ___?"
- 20 Prince William's alma mater
- 21 Armstrong or Diamond
- 23 Singer ___ Cline
- 24 Actor who played the Skipper on "Gilligan's Island"
- 25 Ricky Ricardo's portrayer
- 26 "Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black ___"
- 28 Dating couple gossiped about
- 29 Rob Reiner's dad
- 30 Bernie and others
- 32 CD followers
- 35 Young dog

	L	E	N	S		I	C	E				
	I	V	E	S			D	U	M	B	O	
A	L	E	V	E		H	O	P	P	E	R	
M	A	L	E		H	A	L	S		S	E	A
I	C	Y		B	O	S	S		E	T	O	N
	N	E	I	L		P	A	T	S	Y		
	H	A	L	E		D	E	S	I			
P	E	A	R	L			I	T	E	M		
C	A	R	L		M	A	C	S		E	F	G
P	U	P		M	A	R	K		T	E	R	I
D	E	P	U	T	Y		L	O	V	E	S	
E	R	A	S	E		A	R	E	A			
	M	T	S			M	O	R	K			

27/16

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1/31/16

DOWN

- 36 Brother of Brad and Randy on "Home Improvement"
- 37 Actress Hatcher
- 38 Barney Fife's title
- 40 "Everybody ___ Raymond"
- 41 Clear the slate
- 42 Region
- 43 Rainier and Kilimanjaro: abbr.
- 44 "___ & Mindy"
- 1 Shade of purple
- 2 Role on "Two and a Half Men"
- 3 Actress Campbell
- 4 180° from NNW
- 5 Carrie Underwood, Jordin Sparks, Nick Fradiani & others
- 6 Pieces of china
- 7 Napoleon or Hirohito: abbr.
- 10 "___ with Neil Patrick Harris"
- 11 Sandwich cookies
- 12 "What Kind of Fool ___?"
- 13 "Olympus ___ Fallen"; movie for Gerard Butler
- 15 Donut's center
- 17 "___ Given Sunday"; Al Pacino film
- 19 Jen's hubby on "The Little Couple"
- 20 At ___; relaxed
- 22 "My Name Is ___"
- 23 Household animals
- 25 Van Dyke or Van Patten
- 26 Hallucinogen, for short
- 27 cologne; perfume
- 30 Partners
- 31 Suffix for honor or caution
- 33 Oddball
- 34 Soldiers, familiarly
- 36 "If It's Tuesday, This ___ Be Belgium"; Suzanne Pleshette film
- 37 Spanish bull
- 39 Shriver or Dawber
- 40 On the ___; fleeing

game show

C	C	G	A	M	E	M	E	H	T	K	W	I	N	N	E	R	M
D	N	U	O	R	Y	M	I	F	N	C	Q	U	H	U	X	E	S
B	G	G	U	E	E	A	S	X	Y	O	C	O	W	H	S	Z	X
N	C	Z	N	M	U	E	G	N	E	L	L	A	H	C	P	Z	N
C	H	O	O	S	E	G	Z	S	P	C	U	N	Y	T	E	U	O
O	M	R	Y	E	N	V	E	L	O	P	E	K	R	U	E	B	I
R	Y	P	L	B	Y	E	A	L	M	T	L	R	O	C	D	A	T
Y	R	A	A	D	E	Y	Z	L	L	G	N	E	G	F	H	U	S
K	E	N	I	S	E	L	E	C	T	I	L	Z	E	M	Y	D	E
Y	W	E	C	R	A	Q	L	B	P	A	K	S	T	H	A	I	U
O	S	L	R	U	C	R	O	S	E	D	E	S	A	A	W	E	Q
T	N	R	E	P	U	A	S	V	H	L	P	E	C	N	Z	N	T
Y	A	A	M	E	R	A	E	J	Z	O	L	U	K	M	W	C	M
L	V	T	M	D	T	R	T	Z	N	M	U	G	T	A	O	E	T
D	R	I	O	H	A	R	U	S	Z	B	C	Q	T	T	E	S	T
D	T	N	C	S	I	P	O	P	Q	O	K	R	D	C	O	R	D
U	I	G	U	A	N	R	U	P	Q	U	I	Z	N	H	T	R	B
C	A	S	Q	C	B	J	A	C	K	P	O	T	T	J	G	J	E

			R			B		M		C		
S	A	M	E			U	N	E	A	R	T	H
	L	E	S	S	E	R		N		O	W	E
	P	A	C	E		R	E	F	U	S	A	L
	H	U	R	I		T	O	S		I	P	
T	A	S	E	R		K	E	L	P		N	
		T	A			A	R	K		R	P	
G	O	O	D	T	U	R	N		P	A	V	E
	F	L	O	E		M	A	L	A	R	I	A
	F	E	E		H	A	L		P	E	E	R

HURRICANE

ARROW WORDS

Fill in the grid using the clues provided in the direction of the arrows. When complete, unscramble the letters in the circles to reveal a mystery word.

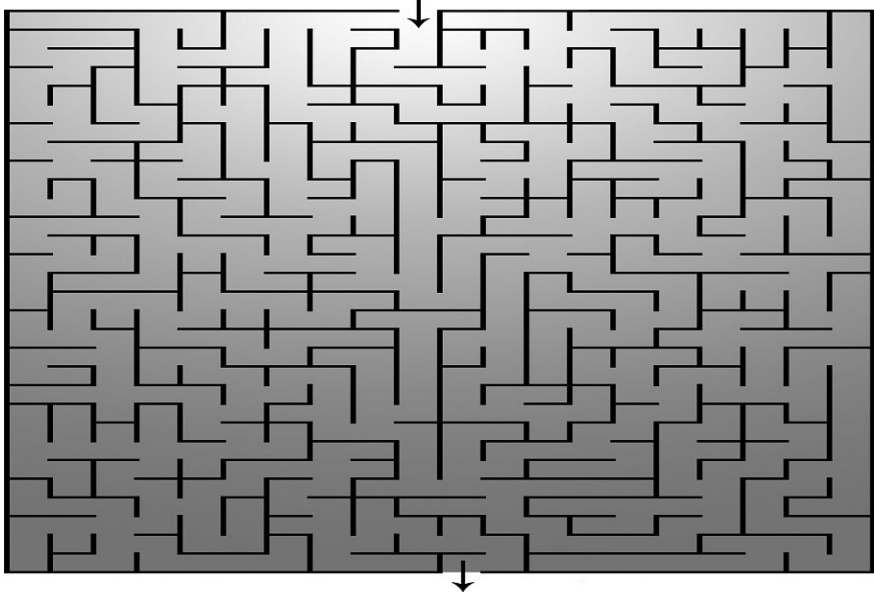
Ditto	Beta preceptor	___ culpa		Save from disaster	'Ironsides' star	Males		Snappish		Tom Sawyer creator	Lend a hand
↙	↘	↘	9	Notched	Discover	↙	2				↘
Inferior	↙					Going on and on	8	Have a tab	↙		
Walk back and forth	↙		6	Thumbs-down	↙						
Stun gun		Swiss canton			Infinitive part			Thimbleful		5	
↙		Mink, for one			Destiny	↙					
			4	Iodine source	↙						
Helpful deed	Not running		___-eyed	Tablet holder	↙	7		Twaddle		Compete	↙
↙	↘		↘								
Sheet of ice	↙				Tropical woe	↙				3	
Invoice amount	↙			'2001' computer	↙	1		Jury member	↙		

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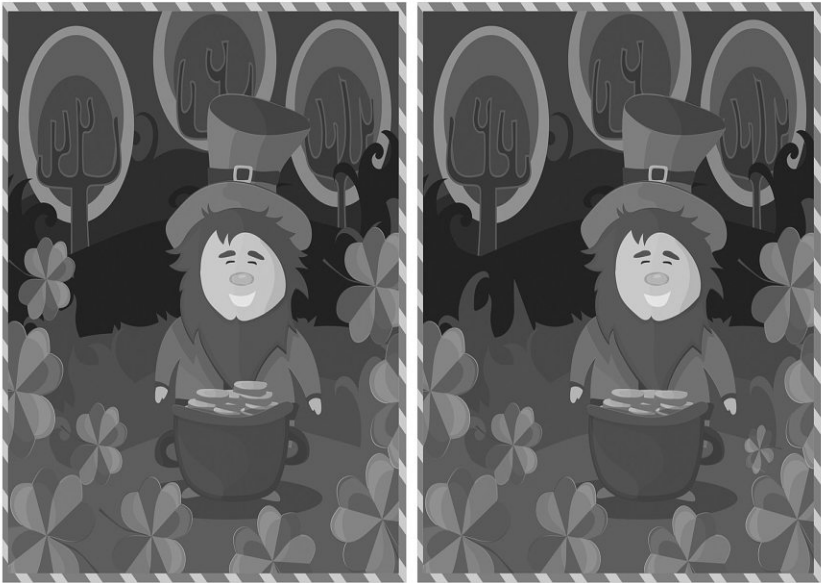
1/11/20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

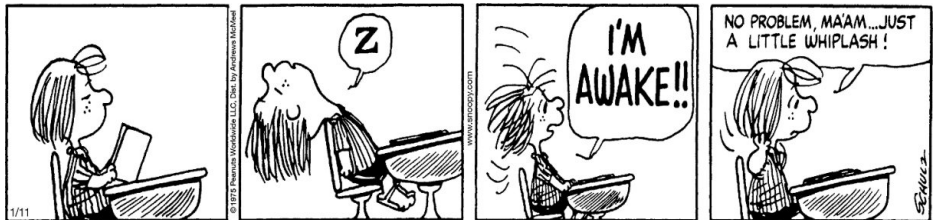
KIDNEWS FUN & GAMES



FIND 10 DIFFERENCES



Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz



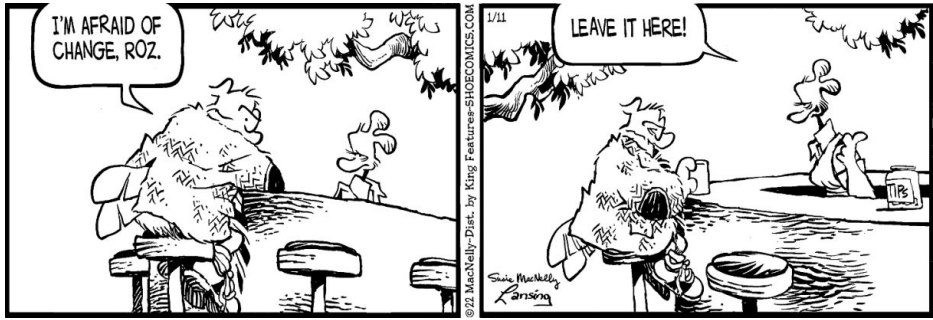
Classic Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau



Garfield By Jim Davis



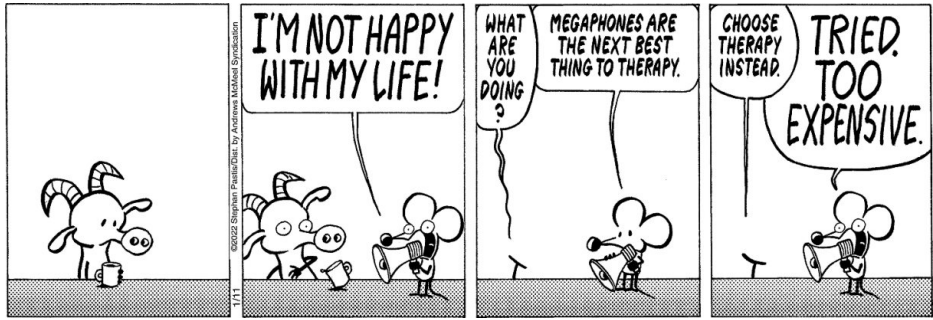
Shoe By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



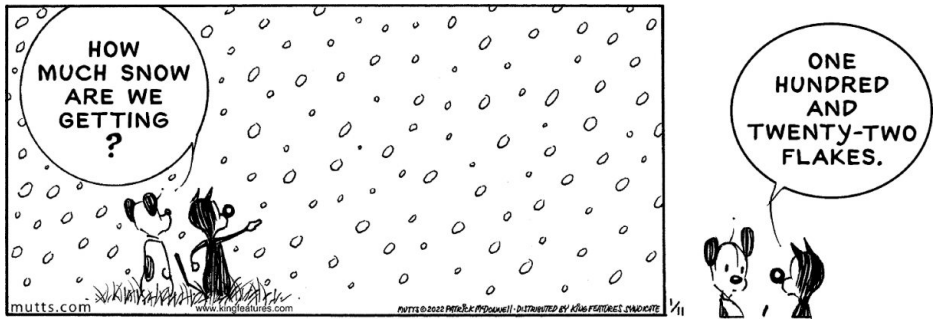
Dustin By Steve Kelley & Jeff Parker



Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis



Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



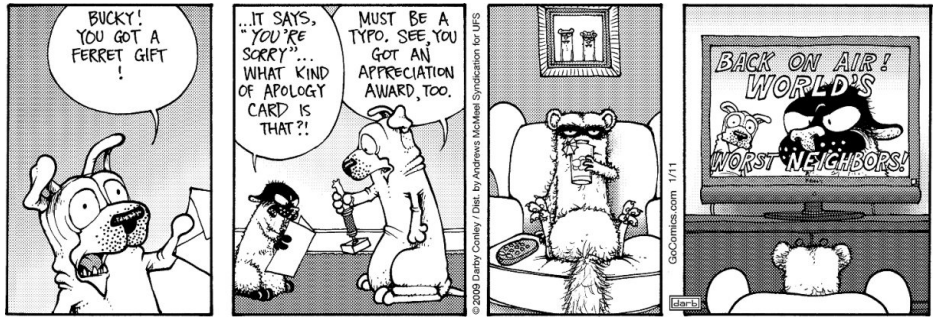
Arctic Circle By Alex Hallatt



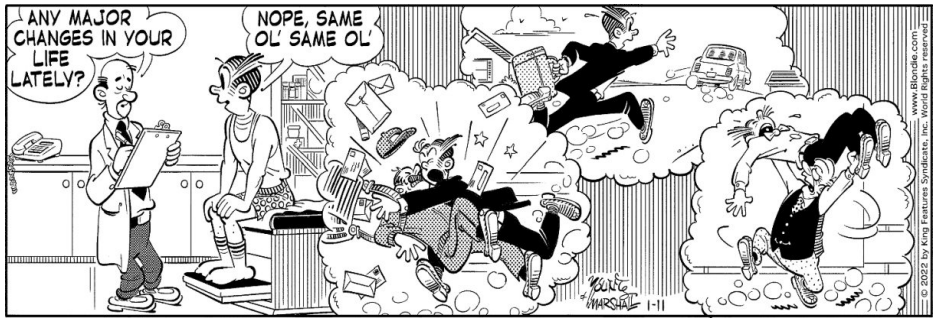
Jump Start By Robb Armstrong



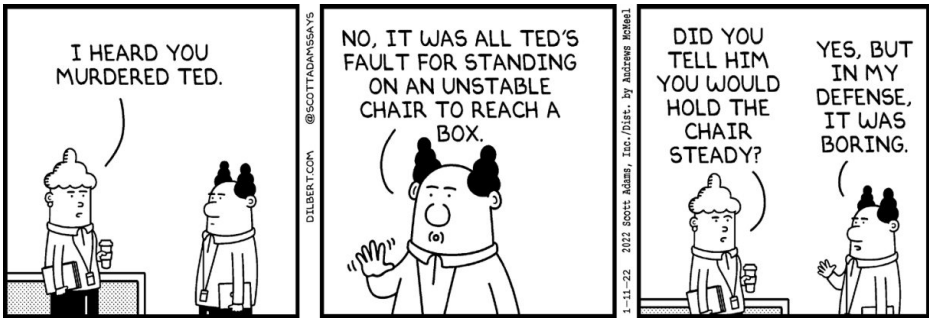
Get Fuzzy By Darby Conley



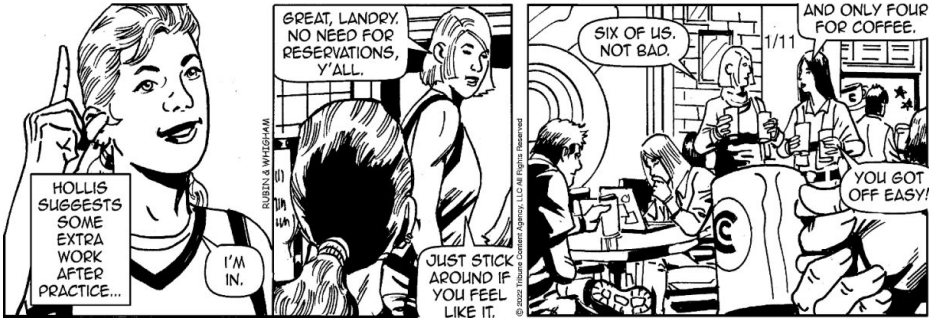
Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



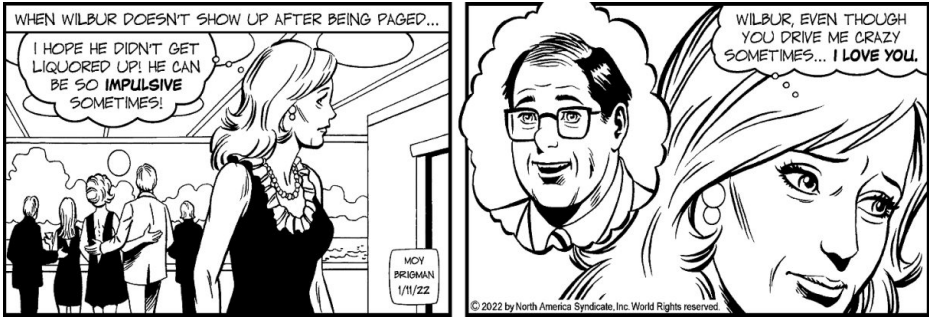
Dilbert By Scott Adams



Gil Thorp By Neal Rubin and Frank McLaughlin



Mary Worth By Karen Moy and June Brigman



Rex Morgan, M.D. By Terry Beatty



Judge Parker By Woody Wilson and Mike Manley



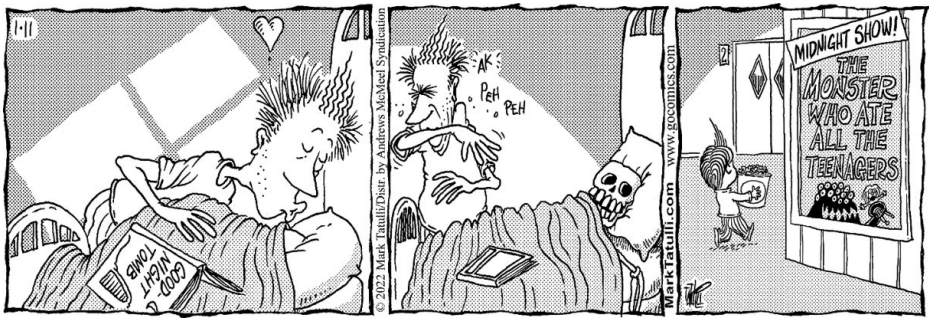
Baldo By Cantu and Castellanos



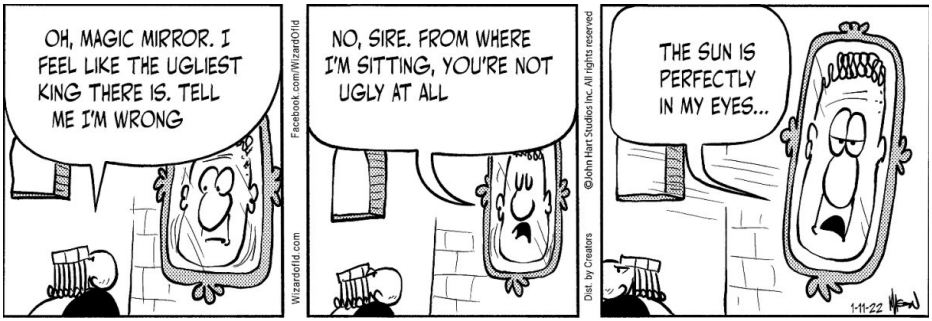
Funky Winkerbean By Tom Batiuk



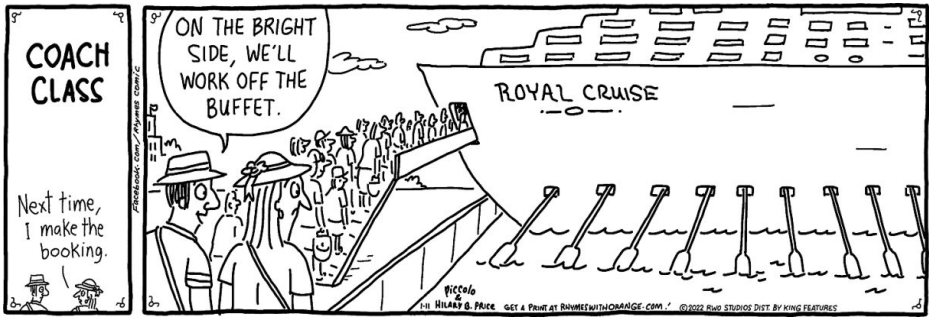
Lio By Mark Tatulli



Wizard Of Id By Johnny Hart and Brant Parker



Rhymes With Orange By Hilary Price

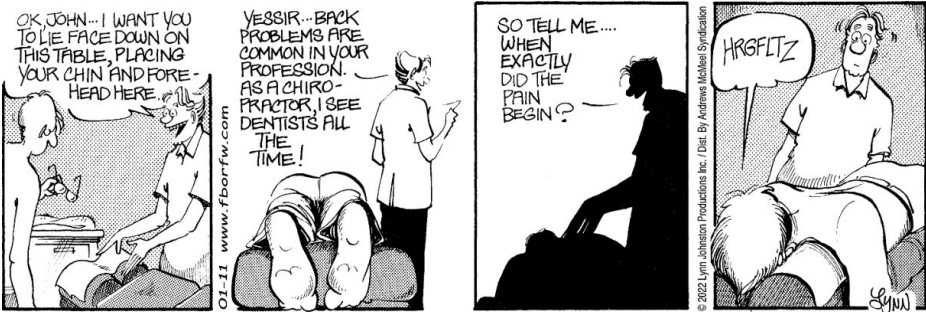


Monty By Jim Meddick



For Better Or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



B.C.

By Hart



Beetle Bailey

by Mort, Greg & Brian Walker



Hi & Lois

By Greg and Brian Walker and Chance Browne



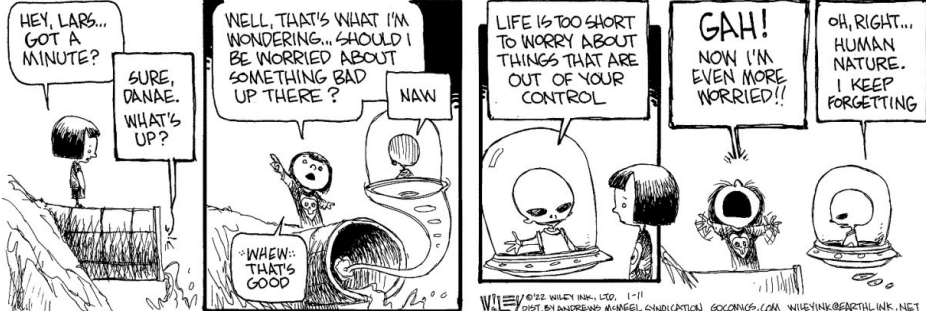
Hagar The Horrible

By Chris Browne



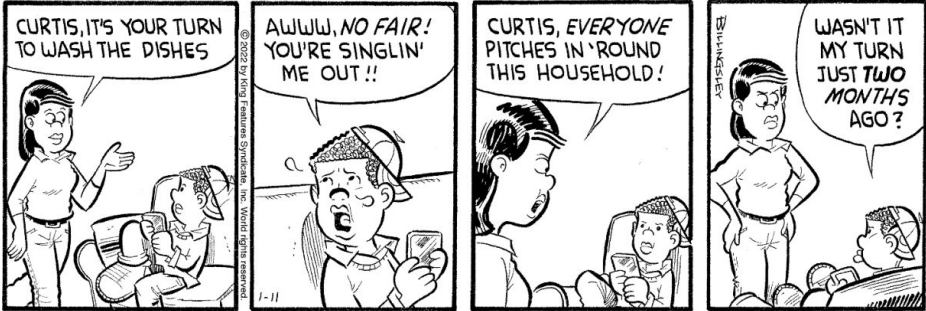
Non Sequitur

By Wiley Miller



Curtis

By Ray Billingsley



Pickles

By Brian Crane



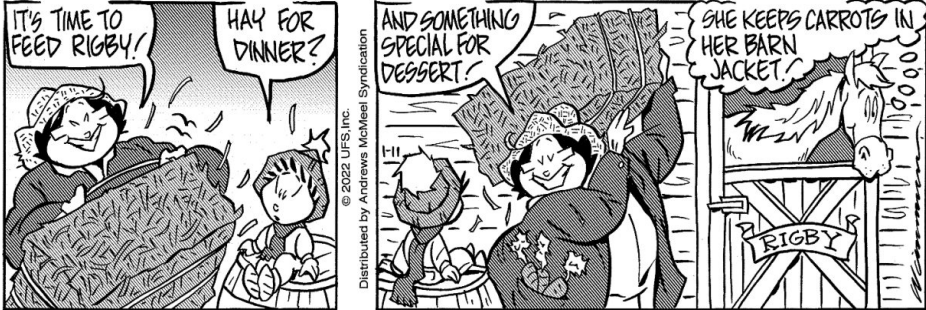
Zits

By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman



Rose Is Rose

By Pat Brady and Don Wimmer



Mother Goose And Grimm

By Mike Peters



CROSSWORD

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across

- 1 Attempts, with "at"
- 7 Apple on a desk
- 11 Endorses
- 14 Refrigerator, once
- 15 Wax Ready-Strips maker
- 16 By way of
- 17 Iron or lead
- 20 Annoying noise
- 21 Unclean
- 22 Home of the WNBA's Los Angeles Sparks
- 27 Eight, in Ecuador
- 29 Nowhere near appropriate
- 30 Dental care brand
- 32 "The Constant Gardener" Oscar winner Rachel
- 33 Public transit option
- 36 With 38-Across, unpubl-cized skill found in each set of circles
- 38 See 36-Across
- 40 Pigs' digs
- 41 Lavished affection (on)
- 45 Justice Soto-mayor
- 46 Early IHOPs, structurally
- 48 Mesa or Boulder
- 49 Flat-topped South African landmark
- 53 Contact info item
- 54 Form 1099 org.
- 55 Giving 110%, say
- 63 Cal. neighbor
- 64 Greek liqueur

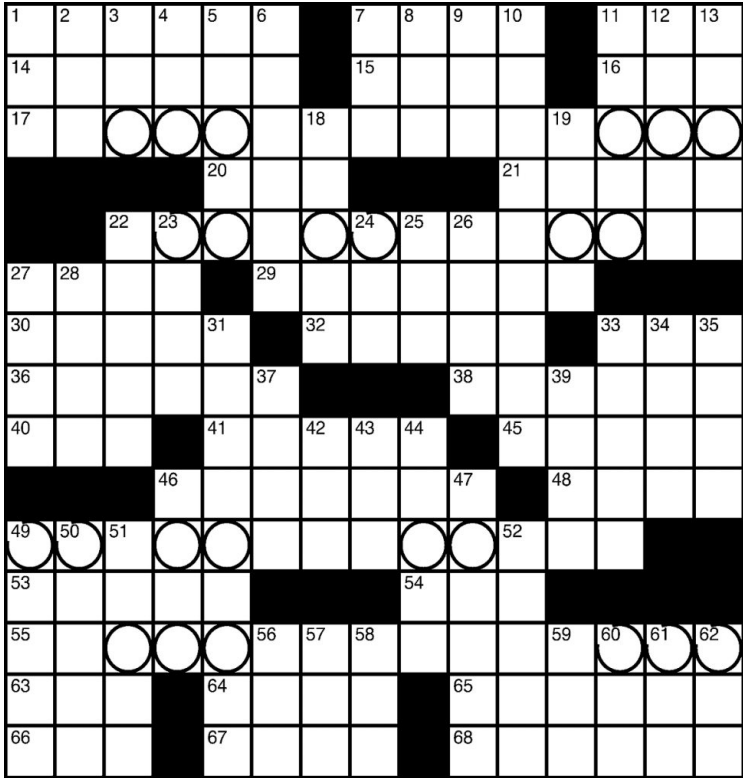
- 65 __ de Rossi of "Arrested Develop-ment"
- 66 Stark in "Game of Thrones"
- 67 __ Virginia
- 68 Faux

Down

- 1 That guy
- 2 Perfect service
- 3 "Quiet on the __!"
- 4 Lawyer's org.
- 5 Meir of Israel
- 6 Yellow primroses
- 7 Company abbr.
- 8 Astronaut Jemison
- 9 Be unwell
- 10 Dining room pieces with cupboards
- 11 Not at all subtle
- 12 Kunta in "Roots"
- 13 Mythical man-goat

- 18 Like a bicycle climbing a hill
- 19 Vase-making dynasty
- 22 Not on the level
- 23 Tattled
- 24 Lamb's mom
- 25 __ Lanka
- 26 "An arm and a leg" is a high one
- 27 Sounds of awe
- 28 Lit __
- 31 Strange one made by politics?
- 33 Porto-Novov's land
- 34 Condo, e.g.
- 35 Remain
- 37 Standard
- 39 Points in math class
- 42 Eastern "way"
- 43 Bird in Liberty Mutual ads
- 44 Acid-washed jeans fabric

- 46 Actress Shawkat of "Arrested Development"
- 47 Zebra feature
- 49 Wyoming's __ Range
- 50 Love, in Sicily
- 51 With __ breath: tensely anticipatory
- 52 Fur tycoon for whom a northwest Oregon city was named
- 56 Billiards stick
- 57 Quarter-lb. quarters
- 58 One-liner
- 59 __ America Pageant
- 60 GPS prediction
- 61 Little point to pick
- 62 Toon devil



By Rebecca Goldstein

Tribune Content Agency 1/11/22

BRIDGE

BY STEVE BECKER

North dealer.

Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH

- A 10 5
- A J 6
- K 10 9 5 4
- K 7

WEST

- 7 4 3 2
- Q 8 3
- A 6
- 10 9 5 3

EAST

- K 9 8
- 4
- 8 7 2
- A Q J 6 4 2

SOUTH

- Q J 6
- K 10 9 7 5 2
- K J 3
- 8

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1♦	2♣	2♥	3♠
3♦	Pass	4♥	

Opening lead — ten of clubs.

No time to relax

Declarer can very easily go down one in four hearts if he approaches the play of this hand too casually. But if he takes care to protect himself against the built-in dangers the deal presents, he is virtually certain to come out on top.

As play begins, South can see two unavoidable losers — a diamond and a club. He also sees that he is in danger of losing a trump trick to the queen (if he misguesses how to play the suit) and a trick to the king of spades if East has that card. But because he can eventually discard two spades on dummy's diamonds, South should take steps to make sure he gets that opportunity.

First, let's see what happens if declarer approaches the play carelessly. East wins the club lead and continues with a club, trumped by South.

If declarer now cashes the A-K of hearts, hoping the queen will fall, he can no longer make the contract. Thus, if he next leads a

diamond, West wins and shifts to a spade. If South attempts the spade finesse, he goes down immediately, while if he puts up the ace and tries to run the diamonds. West ruffs the third diamond and leads a spade to East's king for down one.

Observe the difference if declarer cashes the trump king at trick three and then leads a heart to the jack. He doesn't know whether the finesse will succeed, but the key point is that he doesn't care one iota if it loses. If East is able to win with the queen, he cannot lead a spade through dummy, and South then has time to establish the diamonds.

As it happens, the trump finesse wins, and declarer winds up making five. But even if the finesse were to fail, declarer's willingness to lose a trump trick to East greatly improves his chances of making the contract.

Tomorrow: High-class defense.

JUMBLE

BY DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

OWNSO

NOOEZ

NIREHD

TYOKTN

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Get the free JUST JUMBLE app - Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

“ ”

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: DRANK SPURN DAMAGE THROWN Answer: The circle was the first shape to arrive, but it was easy for him to — STAND AROUND

TODAY'S SUDOKU

			8		4	7	5
					3	2	9
			4		6		
8							4
		6		2		9	
1	5			7		5	
		6	9	3			
5	3	1		9			

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

5	4	3	2	6	7	1	9	8
8	9	2	5	1	3	4	6	7
6	7	1	4	8	9	2	3	5
3	1	9	7	5	4	8	2	6
4	8	5	6	2	1	9	7	3
7	2	6	9	3	8	5	1	4
2	5	8	1	7	6	3	4	9
1	6	4	3	9	5	7	8	2
9	3	7	8	4	2	6	5	1

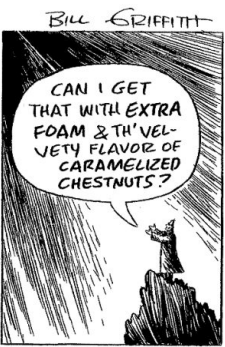
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS CROSSWORD PUZZLE

A	N	G	L	E	S	A	R	A	P	H	A	T
S	C	I	E	N	C	E	L	A	B	H	A	S
K	A	R	A	T	E	D	O	J	O	A	N	T
S	A	L	T	A	U	A	N	G	E	R		
			T	H	U	N	D	E	R	S	T	O
J	U	M	B	O	S		M	A	S	O	N	
A	B	A	S	H		F	O	C	I	M	A	M
K	E	G		O	I	L	L	E	W	E	L	L
E	R	I	C		V	I	N	E		O	P	E
		C	A	T	A	N		F	R	A	C	A
B	O	W	L	I	N	G	A	L	L	E	Y	
T	N	O	T	E		B	A	A		N	U	T
E	I	R	E		S	T	R	I	K	E	Z	O
A	C	D	E		P	L	A	N	E	T	A	R
M	E	S	H		A	C	M	E		S	K	I

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UCONN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Flipping the switch

'Just playing and doing what I do best': Ducharme changed up her mindset to emerge as a key player for Auriemma's Huskies

By Alexa Philippou
Hartford Courant

UConn women's basketball freshman Caroline Ducharme can be an over-thinker, maybe a little bit of a perfectionist. At least she was early on this season.

After a strong summer in which she impressed coach Geno Auriemma and teammates alike, the No. 5 recruit from the class of 2021 started the season "overthink-

Up next



UConn at Butler
7 p.m. Wed, SNY

ing everything and not wanting to make mistakes instead of just playing and doing what I do best," she said Sunday. Auriemma even joked that the 6-foot-2 guard "made me look stupid when I kept saying [in the preseason] how well she was

practicing and how excited I was for her."

That Ducharme is a far cry from the one who's shown up the last month for the Huskies, a player leading the team in scoring with 14.3 points per game since Paige Bueckers was sidelined for two months and averaging 18.3 points in the last three contests alone. Her 24-point breakout game against

Turn to UConn, Page 4



UConn freshman Caroline Ducharme (33) has taken on a central role for the Huskies over the past month. CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Situational approach

East Lyme grad Thibault-DuDonis steps in as coach of Minnesota with Whalen sidelined

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

All eyes were on her. That's the thing Carly Thibault-DuDonis noticed the most about stepping in as head coach for the University of Minnesota women's basketball team.

Thibault-DuDonis, the associate head coach at Minnesota, spent her middle and high school years in Connecticut when her father Mike was coaching the WNBA's Connecticut Sun. She took over for Minnesota head coach Lindsay Whalen after Whalen had an emergency appendectomy last Tuesday.

On Thursday, Minnesota won its first Big Ten game, 62-49, at Jersey Mike's Arena in Piscataway, New Jersey. On Sunday, Thibault-DuDonis, 30, was still in charge when Minnesota faced No. 10 Maryland. The Gophers (8-8) lost 87-73.

Whalen is expected to return Tuesday.

"There were parts of it I was nervous about," Thibault-DuDonis, an East Lyme High graduate, said Friday after the Rutgers win. "My first pregame speech. I've never really called a meaningful timeout before. You want to do right by your team and put them in the best situation to be successful."

The most nerve-racking aspect, she said, was the 'all eyes on you,' whether it was the pregame speech or timeouts, constantly making sure she is saying the right things, addressing the right things, making the right adjustments.

"That's where you rely on the people around you to make sure you're taking the right steps in those moments," Thibault-DuDonis said.

Assistant coaches Kelly Curry, a former interim head coach at Minnesota in 2014, and Shimmy Gray-Miller, a 20-year coaching veteran, helped immensely.

"I work in a great situation with Coach [Whalen] where she just allows all of us assistants to have a voice," she said. "It was comfortable to be able to step up and coach, and I felt very lucky with two seasoned coaches around me in Coach Kelly and Coach Shimmy — I leaned on them a lot. And a huge credit to our team for not

Turn to Minnesota, Page 2

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL



E.O. Smith's Madeline Greene, left, and East Hartford's Shailyn Pinkney scramble for a loose ball in East Hartford's 44-28 victory Monday night. JESSICA HILL/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

Back to the grind

East Hartford guts out a win over E.O. Smith in defensive battle

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

STORRS — The East Hartford girls basketball team had all its players together in a game for the first time Monday night against E.O. Smith.

E.O. Smith was missing four varsity players due to COVID-19 protocols, and another was out with an injury.

It made for a low-scoring, somewhat disjointed game that picked up in intensity toward the end.

East Hartford's defense fueled its offense and expanded a three-

point lead early in the fourth quarter into a 44-28 victory in the CCC East game at E.O. Smith.

Sophomore Nia Edens led the Hornets (7-1) with 13 points, including three 3-pointers. She had 11 of her team's first 13 points in the first half. Seton Hall-bound senior Shailyn Pinkney, who missed time due to COVID-19 issues, struggled to find her shot early but finished with 10 points, with seven in the second half. Xayla Henry added 11 for East Hartford.

"Ever since COVID, we haven't had everybody all together," Edens said. "It was usually one is missing,

or we had to quarantine, but today we had everybody together and we came together and we worked as a team."

Claire Greene had 10 points to lead the Panthers (6-3).

"East Hartford is a very good team," E.O. Smith coach Mary Roickle said. "We knew what we had to do, and we felt good about what these kids did, the hustle and the effort."

E.O. Smith hung around for a long time. The Panthers trailed 13-6 early in the second quarter

Turn to Basketball, Page 5

PATRIOTS

Pats ready to turn the page, focus on Bills

By Karen Guregian
Boston Herald

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — The Patriots were licking their wounds Monday after the latest debacle in Miami, but also moving on to the challenge ahead.

Round 3 with the Buffalo Bills is Saturday (8:15 p.m., CBS), and it's win or go home.

Patriots wide receiver Nelson Agholor described the Patriots' mindset for the wild-card round game this way: "You face the reality of what happened yesterday, but you also embrace the reality of what's in front of you, and that's the playoffs."

"We're all at an even slate with an opportunity to write whatever history we want to write."

In other words, the Dolphins loss is done. The Pats are on to Buffalo, where a new opportunity awaits. It's up to them how they respond after producing a dud in the regular season finale.

"I think we're just going to prepare and focus on ourselves," said linebacker Kyle Van Noy via video call. "... The Bills won the division. They're playing at home. We've got to go up there and win."

"And we have to prepare like this week's the last week. I mean, it's all on the line. We have to go in there and be on the top of our game."

Coach Bill Belichick's message was the same.

"I don't think we need to do a lot of looking back," he said during his weekly appearance on WEEI's "The Greg Hill Show" Monday morning. "We need to look ahead and put our best football out there Saturday night."

The teams split in the regular season, with the Patriots winning a wind-swept affair in Buffalo, then the Bills taking the Week 16 game in Foxborough.

Captain David Andrews said that while the teams are familiar with each other, it's still a

Turn to Patriots, Page 2

AFC wild-card game



Patriots at Bills
8:15 p.m. Sat, CBS

INSIDE

■ Giants general manager

Dave Gettleman out, says he's retiring. **Page 2**

■ Despite just four wins, Jets head into offseason with some optimism. **Page 2**

Did you know?

Driving with children causes parents to take their eyes off the road for a whopping 3 minutes and 22 seconds during a 16-minute car ride. That amounts to 20% of each trip on average.

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SPORTS

UP NEXT

Patriots: playoffs, at Bills, Saturday, 8:15 p.m.
UConn MBB: St. John's (Gampel), Wednesday, 8:30 p.m.; at Providence, Saturday, 2 p.m.; Butler (XL), Jan. 18, 7 p.m.
UConn WBB: at Butler, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Xavier (XL), Saturday, noon; at Oregon, Monday, 5 p.m.
Celtics: at Pacers, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; at Hawks, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Hornets, Monday, 1 p.m.
Nets: at Bulls, Wednesday, 10 p.m.; Thunder, Thursday, 8:30 p.m.; Pelicans, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
UConn hockey: at AIC, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Boston Univ., Friday, 7 p.m.; New Hampshire, Jan. 21, 7 p.m.
Bruins: Canadiens, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; Flyers, Thursday, 7 p.m.; Predators, Saturday, 1 p.m.
Rangers: at Sharks, Thursday, 10:30 p.m.; at Flyers, Saturday, 7 p.m.; Maple Leafs, Jan. 19, 7:30 p.m.
Wolf Pack: Charlotte, Wednesday, 7 p.m.; at Providence, Friday, 7 p.m.; Laval, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

TV/RADIO

BASKETBALL
ESPNU
5 p.m.: Hofstra at Towson. (Live) CBSSN
5 p.m.: USC at Stanford. (Live) ESPN2
6:30 p.m.: South Carolina at Tennessee. (Live) SEC
7 p.m.: Saint Louis at Dayton. (Live) CBSSN
7 p.m.: Kentucky at Vanderbilt. (Live) ESPN
7 p.m.: Texas Tech at Baylor. (Live) ESPN2
7 p.m.: Pittsburgh at Syracuse. (Live) ESPN2
7 p.m.: DePaul at Marquette. (Live) FS1
8 p.m.: Miami at Florida State. (Live) ACC
8 p.m.: Warriors at Grizzlies. (Live) NBA
8:30 p.m.: Ole Miss at Texas A&M. (Live) SEC
9 p.m.: Valparaiso at Loyola-Chicago. (Live) CBSSN
9 p.m.: Auburn at Alabama. (Live) ESPN
9 p.m.: Purdue at Michigan. (Live) ESPN2
9 p.m.: Providence at Creighton. (Live) FS1
10:30 p.m.: Nuggets at Clippers. (Live) NBA
11 p.m.: New Mexico at UNLV. (Live) CBSSN
GYMNASTICS
12:30 p.m.: Women's College: Alabama at Oklahoma. (Taped) ESPN
HOCKEY
Noon: Champions Hockey League Tappara Tampere vs EHC Red Bull Mynchen. (Live) NHL
2:30 p.m.: Champions Hockey League Semifinal - Frslunda HC vs Rsgle BK. (Live) NHL
SOCCER
3 p.m.: Premier League Soccer Southampton vs Brentford. (Live) USA

GIANTS

GM Gettleman out, says he is retiring

By Tom Canavan
Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Dave Gettleman is out as the general manager of the New York Giants after a fourth straight double-digit losing season. The Giants announced the 70-year-old Gettleman retired Monday, a day after New York (4-13) dropped its season finale 22-7 to Washington. It was the sixth straight loss and it ended a dismal, injury-plagued second season under coach Joe Judge. Gettleman probably would have been fired had he not stepped down. “It was a privilege to serve as the general manager of the New York Giants the last four years and to have spent so many years of my career with this franchise,” Gettleman said. “We obviously have not had

the on-the-field success I expected, and that is disappointing. However, I have many fond memories here, including two Super Bowl victories, and I wish the team and organization only the best moving forward. There are many good people here who pour their souls into this organization.” Judge’s future with the Giants also is in question after the late swoon marked by inept offensive performances. He plans to talk to team co-owners John Mara and Steve Tisch this week about returning for a third season. Defensive lineman Leonard Williams, quarterback Daniel Jones and cornerback Logan Ryan said Judge talked to the team Monday about preparing for next season, which some took as an indication he was coming back. The team has not confirmed he will be back.

The Giants went 19-46 during Gettleman’s tenure and were rarely in playoff contention in that period. “It is an understatement to say John and I are disappointed by the lack of success we have had on the field,” Tisch said. “We are united in our commitment to find a general manager who will provide the direction necessary for us to achieve the on-field performance and results we all expect.” This past season was particularly hard to watch. The Giants came into the year with higher expectations coming off a 6-10 campaign that saw them close the season with a 5-3 run to finish second in the weak NFC East, a game behind Washington (7-9). The anticipation grew in the offseason when New York signed playmaking wide receiver Kenny

Golladay, drafted speedy receiver Kadarius Toney in the first round, and signed veteran tight end Kyle Rudolph to help with the blocking. Nothing went right. The offensive line lost left guard Shane Lemieux (knee) and center Nick Gates (broken leg) in the first two weeks of the season. Golladay didn’t catch a TD pass all season. Toney missed seven games with an assortment of injuries, and Jones missed the final six games with a neck injury. Defensively, inside linebacker Blake Martinez and safety Jabrill Peppers were lost to ACL injuries. Despite strong play by the defense, the result was four wins, the team’s lowest total since a 3-13 mark in 2017 led to the firing of coach Ben McAdoo and two-time Super Bowl-winning GM Jerry Reese early in December.



Rookie quarterback Mac Jones, center, says it’s up to him to see that the Patriots get out to a fast start in Saturday’s wild-card game against the Bills. **LYNNE SLADKY/AP**

Patriots

from Page 1

clean slate for this game. “None of the last (games) really matter to some extent,” he said. “The only thing that matters is Saturday at 8 o’clock.” If the Patriots are going to have a chance against the Bills in the third meeting, they’re going to have to eliminate the slow starts. That hurt them in the Foxborough game against the Bills, and has hurt them in other games as well. How can they start faster? “I think we’ve just got to turn it up a notch,” said Van Noy. “We’ve got to do something. It hasn’t been working. But what a better week to start than this week against a really good team on the road. I’m excited for the challenge. I’m excited to play in a play-off game for all the marbles and then move on to work another week and get another opportunity.” Added Andrews: “Each week you empty the tank and try and be at your best . . . that’s what we’ll try to do this week.” **Mac Jones critical of his play:** After a day to reflect, Mac Jones still wasn’t pleased by his performance against Miami. Following

the 33-24 loss, in which Jones committed two turnovers, the Patriots rookie quarterback said he was “super embarrassed” by how he played. That view hadn’t changed a day later. “I think I just didn’t have my best day,” Jones said during his weekly appearance on WEEI’s “Merloni & Fauria” show. “It starts with me being the quarterback, just trying to get everything going in the right direction and moving forward, that’s something I have to do better, get off to a faster start and put our team in a position to win, and play from ahead early.” Jones is typically his worst critic, and that’s not about to change. “I want everything to be perfect and all that, but it’s a team sport and we’re all in this together,” he said. “Like I said, it all starts with me just trying to do the best job I can to get everybody the ball and operate the offense.” For him, that means starting faster, executing plays and eliminating turnovers. Jones said the Patriots know what’s at stake Saturday and appreciate the opportunity in front of them. “We understand we’re in a one-week season now, and the most important thing is the upcoming game,” he said.

JETS

Despite just 4 wins, team heads into the offseason with a bit of optimism

By Dennis Waszak Jr.
Associated Press

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — The vibe is different around the New York Jets, even with only four wins. Yes, the franchise just completed another season without a post-season appearance, an NFL-worst drought of 11 straight years. And, yep, the Jets have just six victories in the past two seasons. But a strange — yet realistic — sense of optimism is the main feeling heading into the offseason. “Winning,” veteran offensive tackle Morgan Moses insisted, “is right around the corner.” It’s a tough sell to Jets fans who have gone generations without a Super Bowl, the last — and still only — appearance coming with Joe Namath in 1969. There has been a lot of hope and optimism during those 50-plus years, only to fizzle into disappointment. And for the past 11 years, frustration has been the predominant feeling. But with Joe Douglas entering his third full offseason as general manager, coach Robert Saleh coming off his first season leading the team and quarterback Zach Wilson showing marked improvement down the stretch of his rookie year, optimism and hope are back. “We’re not where we want to be, four wins, a tough season,” Douglas said Monday. “But today was a good day.” Douglas spoke about the exit interviews with

players, the work ahead in the offseason and the tone Saleh has set for the team. “When we set out to find the right person to lead this franchise, some of the biggest things we were looking for was someone who could teach, who could inspire and who could lead — and we have that in Coach Saleh and his staff,” Douglas said. “Fortunate to call him a teammate.” Douglas praised the “monumental player development task” Saleh and his staff dealt with as the Jets were exceptionally young all over the roster, with rookies and second-year players such as Wilson, running back Michael Carter, wide receiver Elijah Moore, left guard Alijah Vera-Tucker and cornerbacks Bryce Hall and Brandin Echols playing major roles. That youth movement will continue this offseason with the Jets holding the Nos. 4 and 10 picks in the first round of the draft in April. New York has plenty of salary cap space, too — likely between \$50 million and \$60 million — to plug holes during free agency. “For me, I have to do a better job,” Douglas said. Saleh called his relationship with Douglas “awesome,” and the two are looking forward to working together to end the franchise’s playoff drought. “The way Joe and I see football is identical,” Saleh said. “We believe that it starts in the trenches. We believe in the same character. We believe in the same type of player. We believe and see things very, very similar.”

Minnesota

from Page 1

batting an eye and continuing our preparation as usual.” Her mother Nanci and father Mike, who currently coaches the WNBA’s Washington Mystics, were at Rutgers on Thursday. They don’t get to see too many games in person so they weren’t missing this one, even though there was a snowstorm forecast. “I was like, ‘Too bad, we’re going,’ ” Nanci said, laughing. “It wasn’t bad. I couldn’t imagine not being there.” Mike was probably more nervous than his daughter. “When you coach your own team you don’t get edgy or nervous, but watching the kids do stuff, I’m way more nervous than when I coach,” Mike said. “I noticed she started to get more comfortable at the end of the game,” Nanci said. “It helps when you’re up 10,” Mike said. Whalen and the Thibaults go way back. Mike coached the Sun when the team moved to Connecticut until 2012 and he drafted Whalen, an All-America point guard at Minnesota, in the first round of the WNBA draft in 2004. Thibault-DuDonis remembered watching her play at the University of Minnesota in a tournament in the Bahamas during Whalen’s senior year. “I can remember learning from her game,” Thibault-DuDonis said. “I remember trying to learn



Carly Thibault-DuDonis on the sideline at Jersey Mike’s Arena on Thursday during Minnesota’s 62-49 win over Rutgers, the Golden Gophers’ first Big Ten victory. Thibault-DuDonis, the daughter of Washington Mystics coach Mike Thibault, took over for head coach Lindsay Whalen had an appendectomy last week. **COURTESY**

her infamous spin move to her mid-range jumper. I tried to kind of tried to steal that at a young age. I don’t think I ever quite mastered it. I got to rebound for her. My dad was working her out or [assistant

coach] Bernadette [Mattox], so I got to watch how she worked.” One year, Whalen stayed in Connecticut over the winter to rehabilitate an ankle injury and spent a lot of time with the

Thibaults. “Carly was a freshman and Eric [her brother, now an assistant coach for the Mystics] was a senior and they kind of all hung out together,” Mike said. “Lindsay was

kind of like a big sister to her at that point.” In high school, Thibault-DuDonis’ East Lyme basketball team went to the Class L state championship game her junior year and she went on to play at Monmouth. Her first job out of college was working as the director of recruiting operations for Florida State. She then moved on to the coaching staff at Eastern Michigan, then Mississippi State, where the Bulldogs went to their first Final Four and upset UConn in the national semifinals in 2017. In 2018, Whalen became the head coach at Minnesota and asked Mike if Carly would be interested in being an assistant. “That’s a conversation you’ll have to have with her,” Mike told Whalen. “But I think she would be open to it because of your relationship.” Thibault-DuDonis said yes. She became the associate head coach in May 2020. “[Whalen]’s so genuine,” Thibault-DuDonis said. “She really makes you feel like you’re working with her. I love our staff and our camaraderie. And she’s a winner. It takes time when you’re building a program, but I don’t doubt we’ll get it done here.” After Thursday’s game, she walked into the locker room and the players sprayed her with water bottles and chanted “Car-ly, Car-ly!” “It was one of those things in life that’s really special,” Nanci said.

Lori Riley can be reached at lriley@courant.com.

SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB
Brooklyn	25	13	.658	—
Philadelphia	22	16	.579	3
Toronto	20	17	.541	4½
Boston	19	21	.475	7
New York	19	21	.475	7

SOUTHEAST				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Miami	25	15	.625	—
Charlotte	21	19	.525	4
Washington	20	20	.500	5
Atlanta	17	22	.436	7½
Orlando	7	34	.171	18½

CENTRAL				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Chicago	26	11	.703	—
Milwaukee	26	16	.619	2½
Cleveland	22	18	.550	5½
Indiana	15	25	.375	12½
Detroit	8	30	.211	18½

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
SOUTHWEST				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Memphis	28	14	.667	—
Dallas	22	18	.550	5
San Antonio	15	24	.385	11½
New Orleans	14	26	.350	13
Houston	11	30	.268	16½

NORTHWEST				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Utah	28	12	.700	—
Denver	20	18	.526	7
Minnesota	20	20	.500	8
Portland	15	24	.385	12½
Oklahoma City	13	26	.333	14½

PACIFIC				
W	L	PCT	GB	
Golden State	30	9	.769	—
Phoenix	30	9	.769	—
L.A. Lakers	21	20	.512	10
L.A. Clippers	20	21	.488	11
Sacramento	16	26	.381	15½

MONDAY'S RESULTS
Milwaukee at Charlotte, late
Utah at Detroit, late
Indiana at Boston, late
San Antonio at New York, late
Philadelphia at Houston, late
Brooklyn at Portland, late
Cleveland at Sacramento, late

TUESDAY'S GAMES
Oklahoma City at Washington, 7p.m.
Phoenix at Toronto, 7:30p.m.
Detroit at Chicago, 8p.m.
Golden State at Memphis, 8p.m.
Minnesota at New Orleans, 8p.m.
Denver at L.A. Clippers, 10:30p.m.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Brooklyn 121, San Antonio 119, OT
L.A. Clippers 106, Atlanta 93
Toronto 105, New Orleans 101
Washington 102, Orlando 100
Denver 99, Oklahoma City 95
Minnesota 141, Houston 123
Dallas 113, Chicago 99
Golden State 96, Cleveland 82
Portland 103, Sacramento 88
Memphis 127, L.A. Lakers 119

TENNIS

ADELAIDE INTERNATIONAL 2
Monday at Memorial Drive Tennis
Centre, Adelaide, Australia,
outdoors-hardcourt
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32

#5 Lloyd Harris vs. Soon Woo Kwon, late
Arthur Rinderknech d. MacKenzie McDonald, 6-3, 6-7(5), 6-3.
Jaume Munar d. James Millman, 6-2, 6-2.
Jan-Lennard Struff v. Corentin Moutet, late
Alex Bolt vs. Steve Johnson, late
Benjamin Bonzi vs. Lorenzo Musetti, late
WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
#1 Aryna Sabalenka vs. Rebecca Peterson, late
Madison Keys d. #2 Elina Svitolina, 6-2, 6-4.
#4 Tamara Zidansek vs. Heather Watson, late
#7 Jiri Teichmann vs. Lauren Davis, late
#8 Liudmila Samsonova vs. Mayar Sherif, late
Alison Riske d. Magda Linette, late
Anastasija Potapova vs. Madison Breen, late
Madison Inglish vs. Danka Kovinic, late
Dayana Yastremska vs. Tereza Martin-cova, late
Storm Sanders vs. Jasmine Paolini, late

SYDNEY TENNIS CLASSIC
Monday at NSW Tennis Centre, Sydney,
Australia, outdoors-hard
MEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32

#6 Dusan Lajovic vs. Daniel Davi-dovich Fokina, late
#7 Fabio Fognini d. Alejandro Altmaier, 6-3, 7-5.
Jordan Thompson d. Marcos Giron, 6-4, 6-2.
Christopher O'Connell vs. Sebastian Baez, late
Jiri Vesely vs. Brandon Nakashima, late
Miomir Kecmanovic vs. Stefano Travaglia, late
Albert Ramos-Vinolas vs. Federico Delbonis, late
Alexei Popyrin vs. Pedro Martinez, late
WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32
#7 Ons Jabeur d. Astra Sharma, 6-1, 6-3.
Daria Kasatkina d. #8Sofia Kenin, 6-4, 6-0.
Jaqueline Cristian d. Priscilla Horn, 7-5, 7-6(4).
Magdalena Frech vs. Elena-Gabriela Ruse, late
Alya Tomljanovic vs. Anna Karolina Schmiedlova, late
Ekaterina Alexandrova vs. Ena Shiba-hara, late
Beatriz Haddad Maia vs. Belinda Bencic, late
Elise Mertens vs. Fiona Ferro, late
Giuliana Olmos vs. Ocean Dodin, late

ODDS

COLLEGE BASKETBALL		TUESDAY	
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	Line
Quinnipiac	1	at Canisius	
Iona	5½	at Fairfield	
at Towson	3	Hofstra	
UC	5	at Stanford	
at Tennessee	14½	South Carolina	
at Kent State	15½	Northern Illinois	
at Syracuse	11	Pittsburgh	
at Ohio	9½	Bowling Green	
Toledo	1½	at Miami (Ohio)	
at Baylor	4½	Texas Tech	
at JMU	2½	Northeastern	
at Davidson	12	UMass	
at Marquette	7½	DePaul	
Buffalo	14½	at W. Michigan	
at Dayton	12	Saint Louis	
Kentucky	6½	at Vanderbilt	
St. Bonaventure	10	at La Salle	
E. Michigan	9	Central Michigan	
at Drexel	2	Delaware	
at Akron	9	Ball State	
at VCU	15½	Geo. Washington	
at SFA	13	UT Rio Grande	
at Florida State	7	Miami	
at No. Iowa	9½	Indiana State	
at Kansas	13	Iowa State	
Illinois	12½	at Nebraska	
at Texas A&M	4½	Mississippi	
at Texas	6½	Oklahoma	
at West Virginia	3½	Oklahoma State	
at Creighton	2½	Providence	
at Loyola (Chi)	16½	Valparaiso	
at ALABAMA	12½	Auburn	
at Fresno State	14½	San Jose State	
at UC Irvine	12	UCSD	
at UNLV	7½	Mexico	

NBA		TUESDAY	
FAVORITE	LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG
at Washington	off	(off)	Oklia. City
at Toronto	off	(off)	Phoenix
at Chicago	off	(off)	Detroit
at Memphis	off	(off)	Golden St.
at New Orleans	off	(off)	Minnesota
at LA Clippers	off	(off)	Denver

NHL		TUESDAY	
FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	Line
Carolina	-192	at Phila.	+158
at Columbus	-122	Chicago	+102
at Florida	-215	Vancouver	+176
Tampa Bay	-245	at Buffalo	+198
at Colorado	-160	at Nashville	+130
Pittsburgh	-134	at Anaheim	+112
at Vegas	-128	Toronto	+102
at San Jose	-132	Detroit	+110

NFL WILD CARD		SATURDAY	
FAVORITE	SP	O/U	UNDERDOG
at Cincinnati	6	(49)	Las Vegas
at Buffalo	4	(43½)	New England
SUNDAY			
at Tampa Bay	8½	(49½)	Philadelphia
at Dallas	3	(50½)	San Fran.
at Kansas City	12½	(46½)	Pittsburgh
MONDAY			
at LA Rams	4	(50½)	Arizona

For the latest odds, go to [FanDuel Sportsbook, https://sportsbook.fanduel.com/](https://sportsbook.fanduel.com/)

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE									
ATLANTIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA		
Florida	35	23	7	5	51	137	106		
Tampa Bay	37	23	9	5	51	122	109		
Toronto	33	22	8	3	47	112	83		
Boston	31	18	11	2	38	92	81		
Detroit	36	16	16	4	36	99	122		
Buffalo	34	10	18	6	26	91	119		
Ottawa	29	9	18	2	20	79	107		
Montreal	34	7	23	4	18	73	123		
METRO.	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA		

Carolina	33	24	7	2	50	115	73
N.Y. Rangers	36	23	9	4	50	106	91
Washington	36	20	7	9	49	122	97
Pittsburgh	34	20	9	5	45	112	89
Columbus	33	16	16	1	33	106	118
Philadelphia	35	13	15	7	33	90	119
New Jersey	36	14	17	5	33	105	126
N.Y. Islanders	28	10	12	6	26	64	80

WESTERN CONFERENCE								
CENTRAL	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA	
Nashville	36	23	11	2	48	112	95	
St. Louis	36	21	10	5	47	126	98	
Colorado	31	21	8	2	44	135	101	
Minnesota	33	21	10	2	44	122	102	
Winnipeg	33	16	12	5	37	99	99	
Dallas	32	17	13	2	36	92	94	
Chicago	35	12	18	5	29	83	119	
Arizona	33	7	23	3	17	72	128	
PACIFIC	GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA	

Vegas	38	23	14	1	47	135	113
Anaheim	38	19	12	7	45	116	106
Calgary	33	17	10	6	40	104	83
Los Angeles	35	17	13	5	39	97	93
San Jose	36	19	16	1	39	102	112
Edmonton	34	18	14	2	38	113	111
Vancouver	34	16	15	3	35	89	95
Seattle	33	10	19	4	24	92	122

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

MONDAY'S RESULTS
Boston at Washington, late
Seattle at Colorado, late
N.Y. Rangers at Los Angeles, late
Columbus at Montreal, ppd
Tampa Bay at New Jersey, ppd
Minnesota at Winnipeg, ppd
Ottawa at Edmonton, ppd

TUESDAY'S GAMES
Carolina at Philadelphia, 7p.m.
Chicago at Columbus, 7p.m.
Tampa Bay at Buffalo, 7p.m.
Vancouver at Florida, 7p.m.
Colorado at Nashville, 8p.m.
Pittsburgh at Anaheim, 10p.m.
Toronto at Vegas, 10p.m.
Detroit at San Jose, 10:30p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Calgary, ppd

WEDNESDAY'S GAMES
Montreal at Boston, 7p.m.
Seattle at Dallas, 8:30p.m.
Toronto at Arizona, 10p.m.
Minnesota at Edmonton, ppd

THURSDAY'S GAMES
Columbus at Carolina, 7p.m.
Philadelphia at Boston, 7p.m.
Vancouver at Tampa Bay, 7p.m.
New Jersey at N.Y. Islanders, 7:30p.m.
Winnipeg at Detroit, 7:30p.m.
Buffalo at Nashville, 8p.m.
Seattle at St. Louis, 8p.m.
Montreal at Chicago, 8:30p.m.
Ottawa at Calgary, 9p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at San Jose, 10:30p.m.
Pittsburgh at Los Angeles, 10:30p.m.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
St. Louis 2, Dallas 1
Anaheim 4, Detroit 3 (SO)

SOCCER

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE							
CLUB	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	PT
Man City	21	17	2	2	53	13	53
Chelsea	21	12	7	2	45	16	43
Liverpool	20	12	6	2	52	18	42
Arsenal	20	11	7	2	33	25	35
West Ham	20	10	4	6	37	27	34
Tottenham	18	10	3	5	23	20	33
Man United	19	9	4	6	30	27	31
Wolverhampton	19	8	4	7	14	14	28
Brighton	19	6	9	4	20	20	27
Leicester	18	7	4	7	31	33	25
Crystal Palace	20	5	8	7	29	30	23
Brentford	19	6	5	8	23	26	23
Aston Villa	19	7	1	11	25	30	22
Southampton	19	4	9	6	20	29	21
Everton	18	5	4	9	23	32	19
Leeds	19	4	7	8	21	37	19
Watford	18	4	1	13	22	36	13
Burnley	17	1	8	8	16	27	11
Newcastle	19	1	8	10	19	42	11
Norwich	19	2	4	13	8	42	10

TUESDAY'S MATCHES
Southampton vs. Brentford, 2:45p.m.
Everton vs. Leicester, 3p.m. ppd

WEDNESDAY'S MATCH
West Ham vs. Norwich, 2:45p.m.

FRIDAY'S MATCH
Brighton vs. Crystal Palace, 3p.m.

SATURDAY'S MATCHES
Man City vs. Chelsea, 7:30a.m.
Burnley vs. Leicester, 10a.m.
Newcastle vs. Watford, 10a.m.
Norwich vs. Everton, 10a.m.
Wolverhampton vs. Southampton, 10 a.m.
Aston Villa vs. Man United, 12:30p.m.

SUNDAY'S MATCHES
Liverpool vs. Brentford, 9a.m.
West Ham vs. Leeds, 9a.m.
Tottenham vs. Arsenal, 11:30a.m.

TUESDAY, JAN. 18
Burnley vs. Watford, 2:30p.m.
Brighton vs. Chelsea, 3p.m.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

MEN'S AP TOP 25 SCHEDULE
1. Baylor (15-0): vs. #19 Tex. Tech, Tue.
2. Gonzaga (12-2): vs. BYU, Thursday.
3. UCLA (10-1): vs. Oregon, Thursday.
4. Auburn (14-1): at #24 Alabama, Tue.
5. Southern Cal (13-0): at Stanford, Tue.
6. Arizona (12-1): vs. Colorado St., Thu.
7. Purdue (13-2): vs. Nebraska, Friday.
8. Duke (12-2): at Wake Forest, Wed.
9. Kansas (12-2): vs. #15 Iowa St., Tue.
10. Mich. St. (13-2): vs. Minnesota St., Wed.
11. Houston (14-2): at Tulsa, Saturday.
12. LSU (14-1): at Florida, Wednesday.
13. Wisconsin (13-2): vs. #16 Ohio State, Thursday.
14. Villanova (11-4): at #17 Xavier, Wed.
15. Iowa St. (13-2): vs. S. Carolina, Fri.
16. Ohio St. (10-3): at #23 Wisconsin, Thu.
17. Xavier (12-2): vs. #14 Villanova, Wed.
18. Kentucky (12-3): at Vanderbilt, Tue.
19. Texas Tech (11-3): at #1 Baylor, Tue.
20. Seton Hall (11-3): at DePaul, Thu.
21. Texas (12-3): vs. Oklahoma, Tuesday.
22. Tennessee (10-4): vs. S. Carolina, Tue.
23. Providence (14-2): at Creighton, Tue.
24. Alabama (11-4): vs. #4 Auburn, Tue.
25. Illinois (11-3): at Nebraska, Tuesday.

MONDAY'S SCORES
Colgate 76, Army 57
UNC-Greensboro 58, Wofford 54
Winthrop 74, Campbell 72

WOMEN'S AP TOP 25 A&M
1. S. Carolina (15-1): vs. Tex. A&M, Thu.
2. Stanford (11-3): at #22 Colorado, Fri.
3. Louisville (13-1): vs. Syracuse, Tue.
4. NC State (14-2): at Virginia, Thu.
5. Tennessee (15-1): at Vanderbilt, Thu.
6. Indiana (12-2): vs. Nebraska, Thu.
7. Arizona (11-1): at Oregon State, Thu.
8. Maryland (12-4): vs. #11 Michigan, Sun.
9. Iowa St. (13-2): at #25 Kansas St., Tue.
10. UConn (7-3): at Butler, Wednesday.
11. Michigan (13-2): at Penn State, Thu.
12. LSU (15-2): vs. Missouri, Thursday.
13. Texas (11-2): vs. Kansas, Wed.
14. Baylor (10-3): at #23 Oklahoma, Wed.
15. Ga. Tech (11-3): at Pittsburgh, Wed.
16. Duke (11-2): vs. Virginia Tech, Thu.
17. Georgia (13-3): at Missouri, Jan. 17.
18. BYU (12-1): vs. St. Mary's (Cal), Thu.
19. Kentucky (8-4): vs. Miss. St., Thu.
20. Notre Dame (11-3): at Wake Forest, Thu.
21. North Carolina (14-1): at #20 Notre Dame, Sunday.
22. Colorado (13-0): vs. #2 Stanford, Fri.
23. Oklahoma (13-2): vs. #14 Baylor, Wed.
24. South Florida (11-4): at Tulane, Wed.
25. Kansas St. (13-2): vs. #9 Iowa St., Tue.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

FBS BOWL SEASON

MONDAY'S FINAL

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Wednesday: at Butler,
7 p.m., SNY

MEN'S BASKETBALL
Wednesday: vs. St. John's
(at Gampel), 8:30 p.m., FS1

UConn
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CELTICS

Nesmith airs out his game in Maine

By Mark Murphy
Boston Herald

BOSTON — Sometimes all it takes is some steady playing time to rediscover a flow, which is exactly what happened to Aaron Nesmith when he joined the Maine Celtics for their 117-89 win over the Wisconsin Herd on Sunday night. By Monday morning the second-year wing was back with the parent team, settling in for his back-of-the-rotation role against Indiana. And after shooting 9-for-16 on his way to 21 points, and playing 31 minutes for Maine, Nesmith once again had a sense of himself.

“Just being able to go out there and play freely and just kind of get back into a rhythm a little bit, it’s always fun and always a good experience,” he said. “It’s just fun to play the game of basketball no matter where it is. ... So I said I’ll go, go play, have fun. And win another basketball game.”

But there was also the matter of getting his game back on track. Nesmith’s recent time in health and safety protocols couldn’t have come at a worse time. With 14 Celtics



Pacers forward Oshae Brissett fouls Celtics center Robert Williams III in the first half Monday in Boston. CHARLES KRUPA/AP

going in and out of quarantine this season, Nesmith would normally have had a prime chance at playing time.

As such, prior to Saturday’s six-minute appearance against the Knicks, Nesmith had missed seven straight games. Before that, his 3-point shooting had dropped to 23.4 percent — a rough number for anyone, let alone someone whose

shooting was the reason for his status as the 14th pick in the 2020 draft.

“Oh yeah, it’s frustrating. My shot is not where it’s supposed to be or where I want it to be,” he said. “And I need to find my consistency with that and I need to get back to doing what I’ve been doing regarding that. But, besides that, just continuing to make the most of opportunities on the defensive side of the floor, even

if my shot’s not falling make sure I can still make an impact without making jumpers.

“I’m just not making a high percentage that I know I’m capable of making it and I should be making it at. So that’s on me. I definitely get better with that as the season goes on. And, like I said, I’ll just continue to make impacts in other ways around the game.”

KNICKS 111, SPURS 96

Barrett pours in 31 points as Knicks pull away in 4th

By Brian Mahoney
Associated Press

NEW YORK — RJ Barrett scored 31 points in his first home game since hitting his first career buzzer beater, leading the New York Knicks to a 111-96 victory over the San Antonio Spurs on Monday night.

Evan Fournier returned from a one-game absence to score 18 points for the Knicks, who broke open a game that had been close throughout by outscoring the Spurs 18-2 to start the fourth quarter.

Barrett had five straight points to open the final period, which started with the Knicks ahead just 82-75. By the time the Knicks hit three consecutive 3-pointers to end their spurt, it was 100-77.

Barrett banked in a 3-pointer last Thursday to give the Knicks a 108-105 victory over Boston. Fournier scored a career-high 41 points in that game, but missed the Knicks’ loss in Boston on Saturday in the back end of the home-and-home with a bruised left thigh.

The Knicks won for the third time in four games to reach the



The Knicks’ Evan Fournier defends the Spurs’ Joshua Primo in the first half Monday at Madison Square Garden. FRANK FRANKLIN II/AP

midpoint of their schedule at 20-21.

But it was another rough night for Julius Randle, the Knicks’ All-Star last season whose dip this season

has frustrated fans. Randle gave the crowd a thumbs down during the victory over Boston on Thursday — and was later fined \$25,000 by

the NBA for using profanity when explaining his motivation.

Randle shot 1 for 7 for two points, though did grab 12 rebounds. The boos were noticeable when he shot an airball and later committed a turnover, as were the “Obi Toppin! Obi Toppin!” chants from fans that were calling for Randle’s backup to replace him.

Dejounte Murray scored 24 points for the Spurs, who finished a 1-6 road trip. Jakob Poeltl had 12 points and 10 rebounds.

Neither team led by more than eight in the first half, which ended with the Knicks leading 51-49 after Barrett’s strong finish.

He helped them finally build a double-digit cushion in the third. Barrett had a basket, converted a three-point play and found Quentin Grimes for a jumper as the Knicks extended a four-point edge to 78-67.

Knicks’ point guard Kemba Walker missed his sixth straight game with a sore left knee, and Nerlens Noel missed his 10th in a row as he regains his conditioning after being in health and safety protocols. Coach Tom Thibodeau said both are close to returning.

UConn

from Page 1

current No. 3 Louisville last month kept the Huskies in it until the final minutes of the loss, but her 17 points and strong defense Sunday against Creighton were just as important in propelling UConn to its 63-55 win.

Ducharme will certainly have her ups and downs, as all freshman do, but it appears the Milton, Mass., native has arrived for the Huskies and is here to stay; that’s a huge credit to her meeting the opportunity that emerged with an onslaught of injuries in UConn’s backcourt, but it’s also just as much a product of a more subtle mental shift.

“I think just changing the mindset to doing what you do, and everyone has their role and do what you know how to do, I think that’s really helped me and improved my confidence and made me more comfortable out there,” Ducharme said.

Ducharme may have been overthinking things early on this season, but her ability to not dwell on mistakes is what attracted Auriemma to her in the first place. That, along with the way she plays with a chip on her shoulder, produced a competitive spirit that Auriemma says he doesn’t often find in kids these days.

“She just plays on,” Auriemma said. “She doesn’t worry about what the previous play brought. If it was a made shot or missed shot, doesn’t matter. She just goes on and makes the next play, the next play, the next play, and that’s what I really admire about her.”

“I just try not to get down on little things,” Ducharme added. “If you let a couple bad plays pile up, it turns into a bad game.”

That could be difficult to keep in mind early on. Ducharme didn’t get a ton of playing time early, averaging six minutes in UConn’s first four games, and when she was on the floor, she tried to do too many things or was in her head. She could be turnover-prone, couldn’t

find her shot and struggled defensively.

But as she was thrust into a bigger role with the quick succession of injuries to Bueckers, Nika Mühl and Azzi Fudd, it was all the more critical that Ducharme got back to being herself — both in terms of her basketball skills and how she approaches the game. And as one of three available guards for the foreseeable future, she had no choice but to *just play*.

She did just that by not letting a quiet first half dictate how she finished a game. Ducharme got on track with 14 fourth-quarter points against Notre Dame, following that up with 12 points in the final 22 minutes against UCLA. More recently, she’s been able to sustain those efforts for longer: Her 13-point fourth quarter against Louisville was preceded by a fairly productive 11 points through the first three quarters, and against Creighton on Sunday her scoring was fairly evenly distributed as well. In all, her 44% clip from the field (32.3%

from 3) are the best marks of any currently healthy UConn guard.

And while Ducharme’s scoring is much needed for this UConn team, she’s finding ways to impact the game elsewhere: She’s consistent on the glass, brings the ball up the floor and finds teammates for baskets. While her length can make her a huge asset defensively, she initially struggled to keep her assignment in front of her. She put in extra time to to improve defensively, which was apparent Sunday with her three-block, two-steal outing. Auriemma, who earlier in the season made it clear he wasn’t thrilled with Ducharme’s defense, said Sunday she was “real good” on that end of the floor “in a lot of different ways.”

Success tends to breed more success, and the more basketball experience under her belt, Auriemma projects, the better Ducharme will be. The freshman’s role could fluctuate as Fudd and eventually Bueckers return from injuries, but maintaining her

competitive edge will no doubt pay dividends.

“She wants to be really, really good,” Auriemma said. “Whatever she sets her mind to, it’s going to get done. I have no doubt about that.”

UConn back in AP top 10

After three weeks outside the top 10 of the Associated Press poll, the Huskies are back in the fray, coming in at No. 10 in the latest AP poll released Monday. UConn fell outside the top 10 for the first time since 2005 following its loss to Louisville on Dec. 19.

Future nonconference opponents are in the top five. Tennessee (No. 5) rose two spots and South Carolina stayed at No. 1. Previous UConn opponents came it at No. 15 (Georgia Tech), No. 20 (Notre Dame) and No. 24 (USF).

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Safety Tip of the Day

If another activity demands your attention while driving, avoid multitasking and pull off the road and stop your vehicle in a safe place.

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SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TOP TEAMS, PLAYERS, STORYLINES

A buzzer-beating brouhaha

Windsor coach says Northwest Catholic's game winner should not have been counted

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

Windsor lost to Northwest Catholic 81-80 on Thursday night on a last-second shot, but Windsor coach Ken Smith said the basket shouldn't have counted. Badara Diakite had a putback at the end of the game to give Northwest the win. Friends at the game sent Smith pictures with no time left on the clock and the ball in Diakite's hand. "Some people sent us pictures right after the game, so I knew the shot didn't count," Smith said. "It showed the clock at 0.0. The [official] called it good. "I guess you just have to keep moving on." High school rules state that the game ends at the buzzer, not necessarily if the clock reads zero. When the officials leave the court, the game is over.

Windsor (4-1) doesn't have a lot of time to dwell on the loss last week, considering the Warriors have to play Tuesday against East Catholic (4-1), whose only loss was to Bristol Central on Dec. 20 at Mohegan Sun Arena. The Warriors are relying on a group of sophomores — Tyler Betsey, Raymond Rodriguez, Rashawn Tibby and Quintin Floyd — with senior Prince Samuels rounding into basketball shape coming off of Windsor's football state championship run.

Players of the week

Tyler Betsey, Windsor: Betsey scored 17 of his 26 points in the fourth quarter as Windsor rallied against Northwest Catholic on Thursday but fell short, 81-80. **Mike Bontempo, Ellington:** Bontempo had 20 points in a 51-45 overtime win over Rockville last Tuesday. **Trevor Buchanan, Bolton:** Buchanan scored 26 points in a 61-59 victory over Windsor Locks last Tuesday. **Matt Curtis, Northwest Catholic:** Curtis, who will play at Fairfield next year, had 32 points, including three 3-pointers, in an 81-80 win



Northwest Catholic's Matt Curtis goes to the basket as Windsor's Prince Samuels defends Thursday in Windsor. Northwest Catholic won 81-80 on a last-second shot. JESSICA HILL/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

over Windsor on Thursday. **Chris Lomax, East Hartford:** Lomax had 16 points and 12 rebounds in a 57-53 victory over Enfield last Tuesday. **Cody Palazzesi, Somers:** Palazzesi, a senior, scored 38 points, hitting six 3t-pointers, in a 70-62 win over East Granby on Wednesday. Palazzesi had scored 30 points in Somers' only other game on Dec. 18, a one-point win over Wamogo. **Anthony Parker, Xavier:** Parker had 20 points in a 61-43 win over Sheehan on Thursday and 17 in a 68-48 loss to Hamden last Tuesday. **Simon Partyka, Valley Regional:** Partyka had 17 points, six assists, five rebounds and three steals in a 59-46 win over Morgan last Tuesday. **Kemani Thompson, SMSA:** Thompson scored 30 points in a 65-31 win over Innovation on Thursday. **Joe Vasques, Plainville:** Vasques had 23 points, eight assists and seven rebounds in Plainville's second win, 65-41, over Rocky Hill on Thursday.

Teams of the week

RHAM: The Raptors are 7-0 after beating Cheney Tech 79-45 Satur-

day with Troy Miller leading the offense with 22 points and Spencer Pilkington scoring 16. **Simsbury:** The Trojans (4-0) rallied to a 45-36 win over Bristol Eastern on Thursday. Simsbury was trailing by five after three quarters but outscored Bristol Eastern 20-6 in the fourth. Chris Kokines had 17 points for Simsbury. **Conard:** Conard is 6-0 after defeating Avon 75-39 and Wethersfield 73-46 last week. Conard's Week 5 schedule includes Bulkeley on Monday and Farmington on Thursday. **Storylines of the week** Granby (4-0) kicks off a week in which the Bears face rival East Granby on Tuesday then a rescheduled game against Bloomfield on Wednesday, both at home. The Bears' last win came last Tuesday against HMTCA, 75-54. Bloomfield hasn't played since Dec. 21 due to a COVID-19 outbreak, but the Warhawks are scheduled to travel to South Windsor on Tuesday and Granby on Wednesday. They won their first

three games against Platt, Weaver and Wethersfield. **SMSA** is 6-0 after beating Innovation and Coventry last week. Windsor Locks, which had its last two games postponed, and East Windsor, which has played only one game, are up this week.

What to watch this week

Windsor at East Catholic, Tuesday: Windsor will play at East Catholic in a CCC interdivisional game Tuesday. Both teams are 4-1. **East Catholic vs. Mater Dei (Calif.), Friday:** Only two state teams are playing in the Hoophall Classic at Springfield College this weekend. One is East Catholic, which goes up against Mater Dei (15-2), historically one of the top programs in the country, on Friday at 6 p.m. **Bristol Central vs. Springfield Central (Mass.), Friday:** Bristol Central (5-0) will play in the second Hoophall Classic game Friday night at 7:30 against Springfield Central.

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REGIONAL DIGEST

Sweeney, West sliding back to the Olympics

Emily Sweeney of Suffield and Tucker West of Ridgefield both made the U.S. Olympic luge team, USA Luge announced Monday. Sweeney previously made the Olympic team in 2018 and West is now a three-time Olympian (2014 and 2018). The Beijing Games are scheduled to begin Feb. 4 with the luge competition scheduled for Feb. 5-10. **Yale's van der Maas is Ivy League rookie of week:** Sophomore guard Elles van der Maas, who scored a team-high 22 points for the Yale women's basketball team in Saturday's 80-73 win over Harvard, has been named Ivy League rookie of the week. Coming off the bench midway through the first quarter, van der Maas finished with six 3-pointers, tied for the third-most by an Ivy Leaguer this season. She also had three rebounds. Her point total doubled her previous career high of 11 set in the third game of the season. **Quinnipiac's Keane joins Yale baseball staff:** Corey Keane, who helped Quinnipiac to a MAAC Championship and NCAA regionals appearance in 2019 as an assistant coach, has joined the Yale baseball staff. "Corey is a very good young coach who comes from a very successful program," said Yale coach John Stuper. "We feel pretty lucky to grab him. He will work mostly with our infielders. Our trademark has been pitching and defense, and he will be a big part of continuing that. He comes highly recommended."

Keane spent the last five seasons at Quinnipiac, helping the Bobcats to a memorable run in 2019. They won the MAAC regular season and tournament championships, advancing to the NCAA regionals. Their final win of the season came at No. 10 Eastern Carolina in the NCAA regionals. That was their 30th victory, a Quinnipiac record. Keane helped coach 12 All-MAAC selections for the Bobcats, including three outfielders — the group he worked with primarily. Keane played collegiately at Eastern Connecticut State University.

— Staff reports



Emily Sweeney of Suffield, pictured at the 2018 Olympics in South Korea, has made her second U.S. Olympic luge team for the Beijing Games next month. ANDY WONG/AP

HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL

Teams try to play through COVID-19 issues

By Lori Riley
Hartford Courant

The Enfield girls basketball team is 6-1. Like many other teams, it has played through injuries, COVID-19 issues and a postponed game due to too few healthy players. Welcome to 2022. "You think you have a game plan, then it changes," Enfield coach Jay Gaucher said. "I was talking to my coaches the other day and I'm like, 'We need to install this and that,' and they're like, 'Well, we have three girls coming back and they missed this that and the other thing.'" Gaucher is rolling with the punches. He, too, was quarantined due to a positive COVID-19 test. He and missed two games. Monday was his first day back. "When we played East Hartford, they didn't have Shailyn [Pinkney, who's heading to Seton Hall next season]," he said. "Half our team has been out with COVID or close contact. We get a bunch back, but another girl tested positive [Saturday]. It's just everywhere. "We had to postpone the Southington game. We had seven healthy girls and we were playing Lewis Mills and one of our girls got hurt so we were down to six healthy players. Hopefully we get a bunch of the girls back [Monday]." Enfield has been led by a pair of juniors: Alyssa Rossignol, averaging 16.8 points per game, and Amyah Rosado (17.3 ppg). In the Eagles' only loss, to E.O. Smith, both had to play limited time due to ankle injuries. Now, both are now healthy.

Players of the week

Shadae Bushay, Middletown: Bushay scored 22 points in a 73-40 win over Platt last Tuesday. **Ciara Collins, Bristol Eastern:** Collins had 21 points in a 43-42 win over Berlin last Tuesday. **Lily Cooper, Southington:** Cooper, a freshman guard, had 10 points and made some big defensive plays, including a steal in the last few seconds of the game, to help Southington beat Simsbury 36-33 last Tuesday. **Callie Cosgrove, Conard:** Despite 25 points from Cosgrove, Conard



Simsbury's Lauren Sabia drives to the hoop against Southington's Hailey Zembrzuski last Tuesday. Southington won 36-33. CLOE POISSON/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

lost 53-50 in overtime to Wethersfield on Thursday. **Riley Mills, Lewis Mills:** Mills had 23 points, nine rebounds, three assists and three steals, but Lewis Mills lost 51-43 to unbeaten Maloney last Tuesday. **Mia Poturnicki, Coginchaug:** Poturnicki scored 21 points in a 54-28 win over Westbrook on Saturday. **Jaylice Rosario, Maloney:** Rosario had 24 points, 17 rebounds and eight steals in a 51-43 win over Lewis Mills last Tuesday. **Alyssa Rossignol, Enfield:** Rossignol had 20 points in a 44-36 victory over East Hartford last Tuesday. **Vanessa Venditti, Wethersfield:** Venditti scored 23 points in a 53-50 victory over Conard for the Eagles' second win on Thursday. **Bailey Winner, East Windsor:** Winner had 31 points in a 44-18 win over SMSA last Tuesday.

Teams of the week

RHAM: The Raptors (7-0) had two close wins last week. Last Monday, they edged Manchester 48-47, with Kathy Chapman leading the offense with 11 points. On Thursday, the Raptors beat Farmington 45-43 behind Chapman's 14

points. **Maloney:** The Spartans are 5-0 after a 51-43 win over Lewis Mills last Tuesday, led by Rosario, a junior forward who transferred from Wilbur Cross and averaged a double-double last year as the SCC West Player of the Year. **Middletown:** Middletown beat Platt 73-40 last Tuesday to improve to 15-0 in 2021 during the pandemic-abbreviated season and won the CCC tournament title. This season, they are 8-0 after a 49-37 victory over Trumbull on Saturday. Senior Lily Ferguson, who had 25 points against Trumbull, is approaching her 1,000th point and should get

it this week. **Bacon Academy** beat New London 53-45 last Monday in a key ECC contest. Bacon (7-1) was trailing 42-41 with three minutes left when Ashley Lizotte and Valerie Luizzi hit back to back 3-pointers for the Bobcats and Bacon took the lead. Luizzi had 14 points, six rebounds, six assists and six steals in the game. New London is 5-2. Bacon's only loss came to E.O. Smith, 50-38, on Dec. 29.

What to watch this week

Hamden at Hand, Wednesday: Hamden's only loss came Thursday to Sacred Heart Academy, whose 92-4 win over Lyman Hall caused the Sacred Heart coach to be suspended for the game. Hand (4-1) was scheduled to face Sacred Heart on Monday, Foran on Tuesday, Hamden Wednesday and then go to Hillhouse on Friday. **Coginchaug at East Hampton, Friday:** A good Shoreline Conference matchup pitting East Hampton (5-1 with its only loss to Valley Regional) against Coginchaug (4-1 with its only loss to Pomperaug).

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Basketball

from Page 1

after Edens hit a 3-pointer but then rallied to cut the lead to 16-13 after Lilli Clark hit a buzzer-beater at half-time. Greene tied the score with a 3 and Kate McAvoy followed with another one as the Panthers took the lead, 19-16. The game see-sawed back and forth throughout the third quarter until East Hartford's Savannah Morgan hit two shots at the end of the quarter and the Hornets took a 26-24 lead into the fourth. East Hartford then amped up its defensive pressure, and its offense started to flow. Pinkney opened the fourth with a putback. Henry had six fourth-quarter points. The Hornets suddenly couldn't miss. "My shot wasn't going in, but I tried to contribute to passing and rebounding and defense," Pinkney said. "We were a little bit slow, but then we picked up the pace." East Hartford was just happy to grind out another win. "It's been very weird [this season]," East Hartford coach Jonathan Myette said. "Every day, there's anxiety. You never know who's going to be there, who's not. You just try to capitalize on being present every day in practice and in every game."

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